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Daily Report
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Asian Development Bank Meeting Begins in Manila

Philippines' Ramos Addresses Meeting

HK0405095893 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0238 GMT 4 May 93

[Speech by Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos at the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank held at its headquarters in Manila—live, in English]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Today, our economy is ready to return to the way of growth. A stabilization program begun in 1991 has succeeded in reversing the macroeconomic imbalances which have sent inflation and interest rates towering beyond 20 percent. Inflation here is now down to 7.8 percent, and the lending rate is settling down steadily toward more a comfortable level. And despite the dampening impact of the power crisis and national elections held last year, investment in real terms grew over 10 percent, exceeding our most optimistic projection.

The external debt problem has been brought down to manageable proportions. The international reserves are at an all-time high, and more and more investors are beginning to see the potentials of Philippine investments. New money, in fact, continues to come in at a higher volume during this first quarter than that just passed.

Structural reforms have been put in place in many areas. The most recent one allows the wider entry and participation of foreign investment, and the special powers congress has granted to me to allow me to deal with our electric power problem has made this a clear possibility once and for all.

In our energy needs, we have been encouraged by recent discoveries of oil and gas in our western province of Palawan, in quantities apparently sufficient to assure us of substantially reduced dependence on foreign sources.

Several administration bills of major economic importance are now awaiting enactment of congress. These include revenue measures to generate additional collections and to plug leakages in the tax system, as well as a bill that strengthens the Central Bank in its task of energizing the economy and controlling inflation. And there is a proposed landmark measure to open more widely the Philippine banking industry to foreign participation.

We are at the same time removing rules and regulations that deter economic efficiency and business effectiveness. Those rules that have allowed pockets of inefficiency to thrive in transportation, power generation, telecommunication and financial services among others, shall be removed. We are contemplating executive measures that will expand and speed up the privatization program and generally streamline the public sector.

Outsiders have often remarked on our national obsession with politics, contrasting so sharply with the oligarchic nature of our economy. What we are trying to do is to reconcile one with the other. We are doing so not by discarding our representative democratic system, as well-meaning outsiders advised us, but by democratizing our economy.

Authoritarianism we have known. For us, it failed miserably, and we are still paying the price up to now.

Today, we are trying to substitute competition for the mercantilist regulations which have governed for centuries the production and distribution of wealth in this country. True enough, our democracy has its frailties and excesses, but this can be restrained by the spirit of self-discipline and the culture of competitiveness we seek to inculcate among our people.

The key to self discipline and competitiveness, it seems to me, is for people to take part in the vision and in the practical task of development. Individuals must have a personal stake in development, and that stake must be defined in material and economic terms because we cannot celebrate a democracy of the poor, the hungry, the ignorant, and the sickly. No such democracy could long endure.

Known to establish a democracy of right, of opportunities, of means and of competitiveness. [sentence as heard] This ideal is embodied in my government's vision of Philippines 2000.

Philippines 2000 is a nationwide strategy for Philippine development over the next seven years. In conjunction with our medium-term Philippine development plan for 1993 to 1998, it is meant to set up our country on the road to newly industrializing status by the turn of the century. It has practical and achievable objectives within the planned period, which include among others raising the per capita income to at least $1000; achieving a GNP growth rate of 10 percent at the end of the period; and reducing the incidence of poverty from over 50 percent to 30 percent.

Let me now emphasize those two words, practical and achievable. We do not expect to achieve miracles within seven years. That would be wishful thinking. But we shall have, by then, put the foundations in place, prepared the structures and the environment, cleared the undergrass under the bridge as it were for self-sustained economic growth and development. And these we have begun to do by formulating this medium-term Philippine development plan for 1993 to 1998 founded on two principles: competitiveness and social human development or people's power.

These two major considerations form the policy framework and implementing programs of my administration. We have to learn to increase national competitiveness by our own wits and our own energies. But also we have to develop the capabilities of each Filipino, Filipino household, Filipino company, and Filipino community so that they may compete successfully and achieve the potential of their capability. By these, the dual interest of development and democracy could have been well served.

The reforms now being implemented in the Philippines are also being done with varying levels of intensity in many places in Asia. This to me is a good trend. That the bank could do well to encourage, as deregulation, liberalization, privatization and democratization proceeds, they will spur our productive potentials even more.

Proven increasing economic interdependence and cooperation, growth in one country will generate growth in neighboring economies. And as growth spills over from country to country, Asians will break free from their bondage to poverty.

Reform is not easy but temporary reverses should not discourage us, and given the greater resolve and more persistence, the goal of sustainable development, which long ago was so distant if not an impossible dream for many Asian countries, is now much clearer, much nearer than we have thought. That they shall move forward confidently to the future, falls in a large measure on the ADB's works during its first quarter century. You have works to be proud of and high standards to keep up as you begin your second century. Our people are greatly honored to host this meeting and we feel proud that the Philippines has been the birthplace and has always been the headquarters of this noble international institution. May you have the most successful conference and may you all enjoy your stay with us. Long live the Asian Development Bank. Thank you and good day.

Japan's Hayashi Supports Ramos' Program

OW0405112293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Manila, May 4 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi called on President Fidel Ramos on Tuesday and expressed Japan's continued support for the Philippines' economic program. Hayashi flew in from Tokyo to attend the 26th meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Manila.

Isao Kubota, a senior Japanese Finance Ministry official, briefed reporters after the 30-minute meeting. He described the meeting as "very friendly," with the discussions touching on Japanese assistance for the Philippines and Manila's moves to jumpstart its economy. Kubota said Ramos informed Hayashi about his government's desire to reach an "early agreement" on a new facility with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The second round of talks between Manila and the IMF broke up last month after the two sides failed to agree on fiscal targets. A third round has been set for late this month. Manila expects to receive at least 600 million dollars from the IMF if a new loan accord is reached. Without the IMF's seal of good housekeeping, relations with the country's foreign creditors and multilateral institutions could sour.

ROK, ADB To Cofinance Loans

SK0405072393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0702 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Manila, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea is expected to conclude an Asian Development Bank (ADB) co-financing framework agreement soon in an effort to extend its Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to underdeveloped countries through the bank, South Korean Finance Minister Hong Chae-hyong said Tuesday.

Hong told the 26th ADB general meeting in a keynote speech that Korea set up the fund in 1987 to make loans for economic cooperation to underdeveloped countries.

Korea promised in February to provide Vietnam with 50 million U.S. dollars through the EDCF to help it transform its economic system, he said, and the ADB co-financing framework agreement would soon be concluded for it.

Conclusion of the agreement, Hong added, was expected to work as a catalyst to expedite further agreements between the ADB and Korean banks.

Arguing that the ADB should maintain sufficient general finance to help participating developing countries with extreme difficulty in gaining access to private capital, Hong said he expected the fourth general increase in capital to be materialized at an early date through mutual cooperation among participating countries.

Japan

Official Meets U.S. Adviser, Opposes Numerical Trade Targets

OW0405033093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0316 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 3 KYODO—Japan's top government economic planner indicated Monday [3 May] that Japan may accept some type of measuring rod as a marker of progress in trade relations with the United States.

Hajime Funada, director general of Japan's Economic Planning Agency, told reporters after a meeting with Laura Tyson, head of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, that Tokyo may accept the measuring rod idea so long as it does not involve numerical targets.

"Numerical targets tend to distort free trade," Funada said.

Funada said Japan is opposed to setting import target figures because such numerical targets tend to "walk independently on their own," using a Japanese expression to indicate independent action regardless of merits.

Japan and the U.S. have agreed to set up a new framework of dialogue by July to reduce Japan's huge trade surplus, but officials in Tokyo and Washington have clashed on the formula of negotiations.

U.S. officials have said Washington wants "measurable" results from trade talks with Japan, a position vehemently rejected by Tokyo.

Addressing an economic forum later in the day, Funada suggested that the U.S. take a tolerant view of market differences between Japan and the U.S., arguing that each economy is "grounded in its [word indistinct] cultural, historical and social traditions."

"Just as cultures and values differ from country to country, so do our market economic structures differ," he said.

Funada proposed the creation of a "coordination forum" grouping the U.S., Japan and possibly Europe to harmonize the divergent market economies in the world.

Nakayama Begins Security Talks in Washington

Meets Defense Official Perry

OW0405022493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0149 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 3 KYODO—The United States will step up political pressure to get North Korea rescind its decision of withdrawing from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), a senior defense official indicated Monday [3 May].

Deputy Defense Secretary William Perry told Japan's Defense Agency Director General Toshio Nakayama that it would be "extremely dangerous" if North Korea combines its alleged development of a nuclear arms program and the development of a long-range missile system, a Japanese spokesman said.

"It is necessary for our two countries to work together to get a political solution," Perry was quoted as telling Nakayama.

Reviewing the security situation in the Asia-Pacific region, Nakayama stressed that the security pact between Japan and the United States must be maintained for the sake of peace and security in the region.

The U.S.-Japan security treaty is "indispensable" not only for Japan but also for the U.S., Perry responded.

Nakayama urged the U.S. to cope with the problem of noise pollution around U.S. military bases in Japan and to rationalize and integrate U.S. military facilities in Okinawa. He said such steps are necessary for the U.S.-Japan security treaty to operate smoothly.

Perry assured Nakayama that the U.S. will try to accommodate the requests, Japanese officials said.

Nakayama originally was scheduled to meet Defense Secretary Les Aspin, but met Perry instead as Aspin was abruptly summoned to the White House over the Bosnia situation, Japanese officials said.

Nakayama later attended a dinner party hosted by Aspin.

Confers With U.S. Defense Secretary

OW0405090493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0844 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 4 KYODO—Top Japanese and U.S. defense officials reaffirmed Monday that the American forward deployment strategy in the Asia-Pacific region is vital for regional peace and security, Japanese officials said. Japan's Defense Agency Director General Toshio Nakayama and U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin also agreed that the two countries are committed to maintaining the mutual security treaty, the officials said.

The two conferred over dinner after their scheduled meeting was canceled due to the tense Bosnian situation, they said. During the working dinner, Aspin warned that regional conflicts similar to that in the former Yugoslavia may erupt following the demise of the Soviet Union and the end of the cold war, the officials said. Aspin, who was abruptly summoned to the White House over the Bosnian crisis before the dinner, suggested to Nakayama that Washington and Tokyo need to work closely to deter such regional strife, they said. Earlier, Nakayama met with Deputy Defense Secretary William Perry, who pledged that the United States will step up political pressure to get North Korea to rescind its decision to withdraw from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Perry told Nakayama that it would be "extremely dangerous" if North Korea combines its alleged development of a nuclear arms program and the development of a long- range missile system, a Japanese spokesman said. "It is necessary for our two countries to work together to (reach) a political solution," Perry was quoted as telling Nakayama.

Reviewing the security situation in the Asia-Pacific region, Nakayama stressed that the security pact between Japan and the U.S. must be maintained for the sake of peace and security. The U.S.- Japan security treaty is "indispensable" not only for Japan but also for the U.S., Perry said. Nakayama urged the U.S. to cope with the problem of noise pollution around U.S. military bases in Japan and to streamline U.S. military facilities in Okinawa. He said such steps are necessary for the U.S.-Japan security treaty to operate smoothly. Perry assured Nakayama that the U.S. will try to accommodate the requests, Japanese officials said.

Tokyo, Washington To Extend Science, Technology Pact

OW0405025293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0205 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 3 KYODO—The United States and Japan agreed Monday [3 May] to extend a bilateral science and technology treaty for another five years, Japanese officials said.

The officials said Japan's Science and Technology Agency Director General Mamoru Nakajima gave formal notice of Japan's intention to renew the pact in a meeting with Presidential Science and Technology Adviser John Gibbons.

The treaty, concluded five years ago, aims to promote cooperation between the two countries in research and development in science and technology.

Gibbons told Nakajima that the Clinton administration wants to complete the superconducting super collider project initiated under the administration of former President George Bush and called for Japanese cooperation, Japanese officials said.

Nakajima told the U.S. side that the Japanese Government is awaiting the recommendation of a joint working group set up by the two countries in January last year before making a decision on the project.

Acting on a Japanese proposal, the two sides agreed to launch a comprehensive ocean observation in the Pacific Ocean to promote research on the climate and plate tectonics in the region.

The joint research program is to be carried out under the aegis of Japan's Science and Technology Agency and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Japanese officials said.

Miyazawa Expresses Anger at Cambodian Guerrilla Attack

OW0405151893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1502 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa deplored and expressed anger Tuesday [4 May] night at a guerrilla attack on Japanese civilian policemen, calling the incident "a clear challenge" to United Nations peacekeeping operations in Cambodia.

Miyazawa said in a statement read by his chief spokesman the latest attack "cannot be pardoned."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, who read the premier's statement, said that the Cambodian cease-fire agreement is still in place and that Japan is not considering withdrawing its peacekeepers from Cambodia.

Kono expressed the Japanese Government's condolences to the family of Haruyuki Takata of the Okayama Prefectural Police who died in the attack by "an unidentified group" of guerrillas.

Eizaburo Taniguchi, a police sergeant at the Ishikawa Prefectural Police headquarters, and Kazuharu Yagi, an assistant police inspector in Miyagi Prefecture, were seriously injured in the incident.

Two other Japanese civilian policemen and five Dutch Marine commandoes sustained light injuries.

Kono said Japan is once again asking the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to help ensure the safety of Japanese peacekeepers.

Miyazawa and Kono returned to Tokyo after hearing news of the attack, cutting short their "Golden Week" holidays in the resort town of Karuizawa in Nagano Prefecture.

Funada Suggests SDF's Participation in UN Army

OW0405100293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 4 KYODO—A visiting Japanese cabinet minister suggested here Monday [3 May] Japan should consider participation of its Self-Defense Forces (SDF) if the United Nations sets up its own army.

Hajime Funada, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, said in a speech that the top priority now is to strengthen the United Nations, and Japan will boost its contributions to the upgraded UN. He said Japan should study its participation in UN forces as an option available if the world body proceeds to create such formal multilateral troops. He did not elaborate.

Report Views Kanemaru's Policy Toward DPRK

SK0405065293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0627 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 (YONHAP)—An attempt of by big Japanese construction companies and politicians close to Shin Kanemaru, a former vice president of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), to get a piece of a huge Japanese economic cooperation fund was behind Kanemaru's vigorous effort to normalize relations between Japan and North Korea, a Japanese daily charged Tuesday [4 May].

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said that Japan was expected to offer North Korea 500 billion to 1 trillion yen in economic assistance if ties were normalized. "It was no wonder that big construction companies felt greedy at this," it said.

A 12-member delegation from major construction companies visited the North Korean capital aboard a chartered plane in October 1991, one year after Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, visited the communist country, the paper reported.

The visit was arranged by Nishimatsu Construction Co., and the paper noted that Kanemaru and a former Nishimatsu president were tied by marriage.

In addition, Hiromu Nonaka, a Kanemaru's confidant in charge of North Korean affairs, and Yoshio Nagata, both Dietman, were among the delegates.

The MAINICHI quoted a report on road inspection during the visit as saying that North Korea had given a strong indication that Japan's economic assistance could be realized once Kanemaru gave his guidance, which the paper claimed showed that North Korea viewed Kanemaru, then chief of the LDP's road survey team, as "the power on roads."

A senior executive of the construction firm was quoted as saying that the delegation visited North Korea at Nonaka's urging.

But Nonaka claimed that he visited the North in connection with the nuclear issue, which diplomatic observers said was nonsense because the issue didn't flare up until later, the MAINICHI said.

Mongolia

President Ochirbat Campaigns for Reelection

LD0205104593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0215 GMT 2 May 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 2 May—If reelected for another term on 6 June, Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat plans to defend the strict observance of the constitutional principles of statehood according to the country's basic law, which has been in effect for over a year now. National television reported today that he made this statement at his latest meeting with voters in the course of the election campaign now under way here.

In the head of state's opinion, the new constitution is the main gain of Mongolia's young democracy and therefore serves as a legal guarantee of a strengthening of national accord in the period of transition from one stage of development to another. This does not mean that it now functions of its own accord. The fulfillment of its provisions is now the main duty of each of the country's citizens, including its leaders, stressed P. Ochirbat, who headed the constitutional commission. He pointed out that he sees one of the president's main duties to be the maintenance of political stability in the country, based on the principle of a division of functions between the various branches of power.

P. Ochirbat has suspended his membership in the MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] for the time that he fills the highest office of state. He has been nominated for a second term as a presidential candidate by a bloc which is in opposition to the country's oldest party and which includes two other parliamentary forces: the National Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party.

The president said that the main thing he had done during the past three years of his work was to strive to direct the country's development onto the path of worldwide trends and to achieve the international recognition of Mongolia as a truly independent entity in the world community.

North Korea

Daily Denounces U.S. 'Double Standard'

SK0405111693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 4 May 93

["Double Standard Is Tool of Imperialists for Domination and Intervention"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 4 (KCNA)—The imperialists are applying two yardsticks, not one called international justice, interpreting and handling issues raised in international relations in their favour, and even trying to force their will upon others, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today, adding this is aimed at gratifying their dominationist ambition by interfering in other's internal affairs.

Citing the United States' attitude on the DPRK's "nuclear problem" as a typical instance of the application of double standard, the article says:

The United States is persistently kicking up a row over fictitious "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK as if it were an "international nuclear inspector".

If it intended to act according to one standard, it must admit and apologize for its moves of nuclear threat and not defend the nuclear program and development of nuclear weapons in South Korea, Japan, Israel and South africa.

It is a product of the double standard employed by the United States that the International Atomic Energy Agency was compelled to "adopt" an unreasonable "resolution on special inspection" coercively, doubting the DPRK's honesty with regard to the nuclear problem only after its six rounds of inspection, although it had failed to "find" any evidence of nuclear weapons manufactured by South africa through as many as 115 rounds of nuclear inspection of it.

The United States which has delivered offensive weapons of mass destruction and war equipment to its "allies" to cause international disputes is rather charging the DPRK with "proliferation of attack missiles", only fully revealing how unreasonable and shameless its double standard is. Should the double standard continue to be applied in the international arena, the article stresses, justice will be interpreted as injustice and vice versa, and then the principle of impartiality will cease to exist in international relations.

'Sources': U.S., ROK Stage Joint Air Exercises

SK0405051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 4 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets staged joint air war exercises against the North in the skies above Anmyon islet, Yongwol and Wonju, South Korea, on May 1 and 2 with the mobilization of Pacific-based U.S. fighter-bombers, assault planes and electronic jamming planes and warplanes of the U.S. airforce stationed in South Korea and the South Korean puppet airforce, over 250 all told, according to military sources.

In the exercises on May 1, refuelling tanker "KC-135" refuelled tens of warplanes in the sky above the sea off Sosan of South Korea, inciting a war atmosphere.

Information Committee Meets Malaysian Premier

SK0405052993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] A DPRK Information Committee delegation led by Chairman Kim Ki-yong paid a courtesy call on Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamed on 30 April.

In the meeting, the head of the delegation conveyed greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamed. The prime minister expressed deep gratitude for this and asked the head of delegation to convey his heartfelt greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The prime minister said that the two countries should strengthen cooperation in the information field. He stressed that he hopes that the Korean nuclear issue should be resolved through negotiations.

Overseas Koreans for Unification Meet in Tokyo

SK2904234793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—A special resolution was adopted and an action program for this year put forward reportedly at the fifth meeting of the Central Committee of the Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Unification (Hantongnyon) which was held in Tokyo on April 18.

"The choice for our nation under the grave situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula is reconciliation and reunification, not division and confrontation," the special resolution noted, and said: "We, reconfirming the July 4 joint statement as the common programme of the nation for reunification, will make strenuous efforts to implement it."

The resolution stressed the need to fight against the U.S.-South Korea joint military exercises and the U.S. policy of nuclear blackmail, turn the Korean peninsula into a completely neutral, nuclear-free, peace zone, struggle for a correct solution of the postwar compensation problem and promote democratic national rights and unity of Korean residents in Japan.

The key points in Hantongnyon's action program for this year are to oppose outside interference and establish national sovereignty, accelerate the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and disarmament, urge the implementation of the North-South agreement and achieve reunification in the 90s, liquidate the remnants of the military rule and build a democratic society in South Korea, struggle for a correct solution of the postwar compensation problem, strengthen national unity in the community of overseas compatriots, support the movement for democracy in South Korea, strengthen solidarity with democratic forces in Japan and the rest of the world and build up the organization of Hantongnyon.

At the meeting Kwak Tong-ui was reelected chairman of Hantongnyon.

Russian Communist Workers' Party Sends Messages

Kim Il-song Receives Message

SK0405023093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the DPRK, received a congratulatory message from (Antilov), secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Workers'

Party and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Working People's Movement, on May Day.

The congratulatory message reads as follows:

Pyongyang

To Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK President

Dear Comrade Kim Il-song

Millions of Russian supporters for a sociopolitical movement warmly congratulated you and, thorough you, all Korean working people on the occasion of May Day, international solidarity day of all countries' working people.

We are deeply impressed by your communist ideological policy. We support your policy. We support your efforts to achieve Korean reunification based on the national independent spirit and to smash the U.S. imperialists' ambition on the Korean peninsula. We express respect to your wisdom and bravery in the cause to construct and defend socialism.

(Antilov), secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Workers' Party and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Working People's Movement

26 April 1993, Moscow

Kim Chong-il Receives Message

SK0405035293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a congratulatory message from (Antilov), secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Workers' Party and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Working People's Movement, on May Day.

The congratulatory message reads as follows:

Pyongyang

To Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK Defense Commission

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il

Millions of Russian supporters for a sociopolitical movement warmly congratulated you and, thorough you, all Korean working people on the occasion of May Day, international solidarity day of all countries' working people.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il

We are proud of the renewed relations of friendship and brotherly assistance, which had been established between the WPK party members and all Korean working people and the Russian Working People's Movement under your leadership and care.

The Korean working people have shown a stirring example on how to uphold the red banner of socialism.

We support your efforts to achieve Korean reunification based on the national independent spirit and to smash the U.S. imperialists' ambition on the Korean peninsula. We express respect to your wisdom and bravery.

(Antilov), secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Workers' Party and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Working People's Movement

26 April 1993, Moscow

Choe Tae-pok Meets President of Thai National Assembly

SK3004125493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and had a friendly conversation with Marut Bunnak, president of the National Assembly and deputy leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand, on a visit to Korea.

Departing Ambassador Visits King of Nepal

SK0405020493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] An Hui-chong, our country's ambassador, made a farewell visit to Nepalese King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev on 27 April.

Ambassador conveyed the greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev at a meeting.

Expressing deep gratitude to this, the king asked the ambassador to convey to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il his wholehearted greetings, wishing them long life and good health. King said that he will make efforts to further strengthen and develop the friendly relations between Nepal and the DPRK.

Council Adopts Letter to Overseas Korean Religious Groups

SK0105000493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—A letter to the Overseas Korean religious bodies and religionists was adopted at the enlarged meeting of the Korean Religionists Council held on April 27 to thoroughly implement the historic work of the great leader President Kim

Il-song "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for Reunification of the country."

The letter says support to the 10-point programme and participation in the nationwide work of implementing it constitutes true patriotism deserving praise of the nation.

The letter further says:

"We earnestly call on you the Overseas Korean religious organizations, clergymen and believers to join in the efforts to implement the 10-point programme, irrespective of order and sect, those with strength dedicating strength, those with knowledge contributing knowledge and those with money donating money.

"We ardently hope all of you overseas Korean religious bodies, clergymen and believers will lift up voices of national independence demanding that the South Korean authorities renounce the policy of dependence on outside forces, manifest their will to get the U.S. forces withdrawn, put a period to joint military exercises with foreign troops and break away from the U.S. 'nuclear umbrella' in conformity with the nation's desire for independence.

"We earnestly request you overseas Korean religious bodies and religionists to join your strength in the struggle for the total abolition of the 'national security law,' 'security planning board' and 'secret affairs command,' leftovers of the military fascist dictatorship, and the release of all the illegally arrested pro-reunification patriots unconditionally."

Ministry Delegation Meets Beninese President

SK0405020993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] Beninese President Nicephore Soglo received our country's Foreign Ministry delegation led by Kim Yong-il, vice minister of the Foreign Affairs on 27 April.

The delegation head conveyed the greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Nicephore Soglo at a meeting.

Expressing deep gratitude to this, president asked the delegation head to convey to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il his wholehearted greetings wishing them long life and good health.

After noting the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Benin and the DPRK, president hopes that the good friendly and cooperative relations will constantly be developed. He said that Korea should be reunified as soon as possible through negotiations between the North and the South without foreign intervention. He stressed that he support the constructive reunification proposals put forth by the respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song.

After noting that he positively supports the DPRK's denuclearization policy, the president said that the DPRK nuclear issue should be resolved through negotiations between the DPRK and the United States.

Kim Il-song Sends Gift to Malian President

SK0105081693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 1 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a gift to Malian President Alpha Oumar Konare.

The gift, the film "President and Head of State of the Republic of Mali Visits Korea," was conveyed to the Malian president by the Korean ambassador to Mali.

The Malian president said the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation worked out by President Kim Il-song was a just one acceptable to all who want national reunification as it was based on his patriotism and spirit of national independence.

He expressed support for the efforts of the DPRK for the development of friendly relations between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Meets Departing Yemeni Envoy

SK3004232093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1105 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister, today met and had a conversation with Yemeni Ambassador to Korea Husayn Tahir Muhammad Yahya who paid a farewell call on him.

Kim Chong-il Receives Message From Kazakhstan

SK0405054393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 4 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from Nina Andreyeva, general secretary of the Central Committee of the All-Union Bolshevik Communist Party, and A. Alimjanov, chairman of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan, on the 61st anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army [KPA].

They warmly congratulated Comrade Kim Chong-il on the KPA founding anniversary and wished him great success in his responsible work for the victory of socialism.

They expressed the hope that the Korean People's Army would always remain a dependable fortress of socialism and guarantee the reunification of the country.

Trade Union Group Holds 23d Plenary Session 27 Apr

SK3004140093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] The 25th plenary session of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK] Central Committee was held in Pyongsong today. Attending the plenary session were Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, members and alternate members of the GFTUK Central Committee, and chairmen of trade unions of major provincial, municipal, and county plants and enterprises.

In the session, the participants discussed ways to thoroughly implement the party's policy demanding the intensified organizational and ideological work of trade unions. Following report by GFTUK Central Committee chairman Chu Song-il, many participants participated in debates.

Reporters and debaters said that this session would serve as a new turning point because members of trade unions can improve and strengthen the trade unions' organizational and ideological work better in conformity with the demands of developing revolution and the prevailing situation and more firmly unite members of trade unions around the dear leader comrade, thus consolidating our revolutionary main force like a rock and accelerating modeling the ranks of trade unions after the chuche idea.

They stressed that the trade unions' organizational and ideological work is an important work to vigorously organize and mobilize members for implementation of the party's line and policy by fostering a broad range of members to become genuine loyalists and dutiful sons who are boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader. They also said that when members carry out this work successfully, trade unions can be more firmly organized as the party's reliable supporter and auxiliary organization which responsibly fulfills their glorious mission with patience.

Reporters and debaters said that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il earlier defined trade unions as ideological indoctrination organizations and elucidated tasks and ways to strengthen the members' work and carry it out in conformity with their nature and mission. They also said that the dear leader energetically led them in order to have them carry out the trade unions' organizational and ideological work in an organized and planned manner. They said that the work system of trade unions was correctly established under the party's wise leadership and that many successes were achieved in the organizational and ideological work while they were deepening the work system of trade unions.

Reporters and debaters said that organizations of trade unions of various echelons vigorously launched the ideological indoctrination work including education on loyalty and greatness, thus upgrading the functions and roles of basic organizations to a higher plane and further intensifying members' organizational activities. As a result, trade union organizations were beefed up, the number of exemplary primary-level organizations was increased, and organizations of each various echelons scored innovative achievements by actively organizing and mobilizing members of trade unions in implementing the party's economic policy, they said. They added that a new change took place in members' ideological and political traits and that this brought communist traits of risking their lives for the party and the leader and serving society, groups, and comrades into full bloom.

They stressed that trade union organizations have a heavy and glorious task to strengthen a single-hearted unity of ranks in every way by firmly uniting broad range of members around the party and vigorously accelerate the chuche cause of revolution by upholding the party's leadership.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated:

Organizations of working people's organizations should substantially conduct ideological indoctrination for members and at the same time intensify the guidance on the trade unions' organizational activities.

Reporters and debaters stressed that organizations and functionaries of trade unions should not only give firm priority to the organizational and ideological work as their basic mission but also vigorously propel the work, thus making the ranks of trade unions the faithful ranks which uphold the party's leadership with a single mind of loyalty and filial piety. They also said that they should more systematically organize the trade unions' work and endlessly improve and strengthen the guidance on organizational and ideological activities for members of trade unions.

Members of trade unions should give primary priority to making loyalty to the party and the leader faith, conscience, morality, and part of their daily life and strengthen the guidance on organizational life for members of trade unions. At the same time, they should further create and universalize experience at various units, firmly beep up primary-level organizations, and further deepen movement to create exemplary, loyal primary-level organizations, reporters and debaters added.

They stated that they should work hard at vitalizing the trade unions' ideological indoctrination work in conformity with the demands of the present situation. They suggested measures to vigorously launch the ideological indoctrination work in diversified forms and manners, which includes education to let them fully understand the greatness of our party, education to let them learn something from immortal paeans written by the respected and beloved leader, education to teach them the principles of the chuche idea, and education to teach them loyalty through dynamic examples of loyalty.

They said that the trade unions' members should actively organize and embark on masses' movement to inspire members to implement the party's economic policy, set up a well-organized trade unions' plan, let functionaries be fully aware of their heightened sense of responsibility and role, and more thoroughly establish tough organizational discipline within trade unions so that trade unions' members can fulfill their duties in perfect consistency under the party's leadership.

Reporters and debaters stressed that all trade union members should effect a great turnaround in the trade unions' organizational and ideological work, thus defending, protecting, adhering to, and shining socialism of our own style under the party's leadership with pride and happiness in which they uphold the dear leader comrade as Republic's National Defense Commission chairman.

A letter of decision was adopted at the plenary session.

Urges Solidarity With ROK Workers

SK3004123293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK] called upon the World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU] and trade unions of all countries to extend international support and solidarity to the just cause of the South Korean workers in their vigorous struggle for democratic rights and the right to existence.

The Central Committee of the GFTUK in a letter to the WFTU and trade unions of all countries today on the occasion of the 103rd may day, the international holiday of the working class the world over, pointed out that though a "civilian government" is said to have been set up in South Korea, the workers are still denied the legitimate elementary right to existence, their democratic freedom and rights encroached upon.

The South Korean workers are working under bad work conditions, their working hours being the longest in the world. But their wages are relatively lowest and their monthly average wages are no more than one third of the minimum cost of living. They are subjected to 12-18 hour toilsome labour daily and even forced to work 24 hours under the name of "special duty".

South Korean minor enterprises and many other work places are devoid of elementary labour sefety devices and some 3,000 workers are killed in labour accidents and above 200,000 workers are wounded heavily or lightly every year.

There are millions of jobless workers in South Korea.

It is only too natural, therefore, that the South Korean workers are waging a struggle for elementry democratic rights and the right to live. But the South Korean authorities are suppressing their just struggle by invoking evil laws related to labour, the letter said, and added: Thousands of workers dismissed for union activities are still wandering about in the streets even after the appearance of the socalled "civilian government" in South Korea. We cannot look on with folded arms at the misfortunes and sufferings of the South Korean workers, our fellow countrymen. We hope that elementary vital right and stable life will be ensured to them at an early date.

Kang Song-san Spends May Day With Workers

SK0405035593 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 1 May 93

[Excerpts] Party and Government cadres visited plants and enterprises in different places of the country on May Day, the international holiday of the workers of the world, and enjoyed the holiday with workers. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, visited the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex and congratulated working class which greets the holiday of May. Comrade Kang Song-san looked around major production processes of the complex and acquainted himself with specific status of power and heat production. Comrade Kang Song-san was also deeply interested in workers' living condition and specific status of welfare supply service of the complex. [passage omitted]

Our leader [suryong] returned to the fatherland from a victorious campaign after annihilating brigandish Japanese imperialists. He visited Kangchon first before going to his hometown where his grandparents—whom he had missed so much—were waiting for him and met the working class in Kangchon, the place where the Chollima movement began. The working class is proceeding to the outdoor stadium, where colorful holiday functions will be held together with Comrade Yi Chong-ok who visited Kangchon [a major steel production base] to celebrate the holiday of the working class. [passage omitted].

Comrade Pak Song-chol mingled with the working class of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, participated in sports and amusement games, and acted as umpire for these games, thus encouraging the working class which greets the holiday. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Yong-nam visited the 26 March Plant filled with the May Day mood to congratulate and encourage the working class which greets the holiday. He was briefed on the plant's history on innovative productions achieved under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and under the unfurled banner of three revolutions—ideology, technology, and culture. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Yong-sun visited the 5 October General Automation Plant on May Day. He conversed with the plant's labor innovators and congratulated the working class which accelerated production in the same spirit as it displayed during the period of semi-war state and brilliantly completed national economic plan for April.

He encouraged them to uphold the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with a single-mind of loyalty and filial piety. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kang Hui-won visited the Lighting Fixture Complex, congratulated workers, and enjoyed the holiday together with them. Comrade Kang Hui-won dropped in on the fluorescence light workplace where the great leader had visited personally, acquainted himself with the production status, and encouraged workers there. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Ki-nam visited the Kumsong Tractor Complex and participated in holiday amusement games together with the working class. Artistes of the Mansudae Art Troupe came to the Kumsong Tractor Complex to congratulate the working class of the complex. The great leader and the dear leader comrade earlier had visited this glorious work place in person and the working class here is proud of this. In such a pride, the working class greets May Day with high political zeal and brilliant labor achievement. The artistes gave colorful performances to such a proud working class.

Comrade Kim Ki-nam looked around the modernized foundry, the first process of tractor production. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Kuk-tae enjoyed the holiday together with the working class of the Pyongyang Spinning and Weaving Machine Plant. [passage omitted]

Comrade Pak Nam-ki, who visited the Suchon Vinalon Complex to commemorate the holiday together with the working class, participated in holiday amusement games. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Hwan, vice premier of the Administration Council, mingled with the working class of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and participated in colorful holiday amusement games. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kim Yun-hyok visited the Chunggu Public Building Construction Company of the Pyongyang Construction General Bureau and commemorated May Day together with the working class. [passage omitted]

KCNA Details 'Three Revolution Exhibition'

SK0305111093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA)—The two-storeyed light industry hall of the three revolution exhibition has a floor space of more than 15,000 square metres.

On display there are over 164,200 exhibits of 10,000 kinds presenting an epitome of the achievements made in textile, food processing, shoe-making, daily necessities production and other light industrial domains, chemical industry, city management, pharmacy and medical appliance manufacture.

Displayed on the first floor are the nation's special products, some 250 kinds of foodstuffs which won high international appreciation, the equipment of maize noodle production and its technical chart, some 400 kinds of textiles, different kinds of footwear, general marchandise and sports and cultural apparatuses which vividly show the development of the chuche-oriented modern light and local industries.

Of them garments, underwear, footwear, etc. made of vinalon, the chuche fibre, draw particular attention of the visitors for their diverse shapes and good quality.

Seen on the second floor are charts showing the growth of chemical fertilizer, chemical fibre, plastics and other industries and various kinds of fertilizers, agricultural medicines, vinalon, acrylic fibre, basic chemical goods and rubber products which partially show the development of chemical industry.

The achievements registered in city management, environmental protection and public health fully demonstrate the justness and vitality of the popular policies of the Workers' Party of Korea for the betterment of the people's living.

Distinguished scientific and technical achievements which have been made in recent years in different domains are also displayed in the light industry hall.

Students Win Prizes for Scientific Pursuit

SK3004104793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—The number of the winners of "student prize for scientific pursuit" has increased steadily in Korea.

The prize is awarded to students who have greatly contributed to the development of the nation's science and technology.

Since the prize was instituted in March 1991, some 1,240 students have won it.

In this course, an increasing number of students have become candidate associate doctors and inventors. Thousands of students received the title of candidate associate doctor and inventor last year alone.

They have contributed to solving scientific and technical problems arising in the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientization of the national economy and in the improvement of the people's material and cultural living standards.

Several Coal Mines 'Overfulfilled' Monthly Quotas

SK0405001193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA)—April targets were topped at factories and enterprises across Korea.

The monthly plans were overfulfilled at the Sunchon, Anju, Hamnam, Pukchang and Kangso district coal mining complexes and other coal mines in the coal industry which is given definite priority in the national economy.

The Taedonggang Power Complex, the Thaechon Hydraulic Power Complex, the Kanggye Youth Power Station and other power stations in the power industry and the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Haeju Smeltery and many other units in the metal industry honored the monthly plans ahead of schedule.

A number of plants in the machine-building industry including the Yongsong general machine bureau, the general bureau of mining machine industry and the April 3 machine tool complex went beyond their monthly assignments.

The April plans were overfulfilled by many units of the building materials, chemical and light industries including the Sunchon Cement Complex, the Sangwon Cement Complex, the Namhung Youth Chemical Comhlex, the Sinuiju Textile Mill, the general bureau of shoe-making industry and the Pyongyang Silk Mill.

Rural Communities 'Busy With Farming' in Spring

SK0105000593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 30 (KCNA)—Rural communities in Korea now are busy with farming in the spring season.

The sowing of seed rice on cold-beds had been finished by April 25, taking the country as a whole.

With the completion of the qualitative rice sowing in time, the initial foundation has been laid for a rich harvest this year.

Agricultural working people across the country did the sowing as required by the chuche farming method.

Farmers in Pyongyang municipality, South Hwanghae Province, North Pyongan Province and Kaesong municipality ensured a high speed of sowing on a scientific and technological basis by usingihigyly efficient machines such as the rice seedling-bed hardening machine, the seed rice sowing machine and the fertilizing machine.

Meanwhile, the transplanting of humus-potted maize seedlings started in the western plain areas of the country. South Hwanghae Province, South Pyongan Province and Nampo municipality are taking the lead here.

Rural communities are pushing ahead with spring tilling, manure production and its carrying to fields.

The tilling of rice fields in the countryside as a whole was up 30 percent from the same period last year, and South Hwanghae Province and South Pyongan Province produced manure respectively 2 and 1.2 times as much as was turned out last year and carried them to the paddy and non-paddy fields.

Irrigation water is flowing into the fields following the ploughing.

KCNA Reviews 4 May Pyongyang Press

SK0405054693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 4 May 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 4 (KCNA)—Papers here today frontpage a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on his 65th birthday and carry a report that he sent a floral basket to the latter on the occasion.

Seen in the press is a message of condolence sent by President Kim Il-song to acting president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka D.B. Wijetunge upon the death of President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

According to NODONG SINMUN, the reminiscences of the great leader President Kim Il-song was reported by foreign media.

It is reported in the paper that President Kim Il-song received a message from Guyanese President Cheddi Bharrat Jagan in reply to his message of greetings on the latter's 75th birthday and a message from Indonesian President Suharto in reply to his message of greetings on his reelection as president of the republic.

Carried in the paper is news that messages of greetings came to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from Russian figures on the occasion of May Day.

Works of Comrade Kim Chong-il have been disseminated and studied in different countries, reports the paper.

Given in the paper are accounts of meetings held in various countries to congratulate Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, on his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission.

The paper reports that the asian regional institute of the chuche idea published bulletin "Age of Chuche" No. 41.

The paper editorially calls on the army and the people to unite in one mind in remaining faithful to the respected comrade supreme commander.

Introduced in the press are new achievements made in different domains of the national economy on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The DPRK clinched a berth for the second round of the world cup Asian qualifier, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN reports that Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the C.C. [Central Committe], the Communist Party of Cuba, President of the Council of State and President of the Council of Ministers of the

Republic of Cuba, received a delegation of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea.

A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry, answering a KCNA question, refuted the false report of U.S. and other Western media that there was a certain "problem" between the DPRK and China, reports the press.

The press informs the readers that Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and other South Korean figures urged the authorities to reinstate the dismissed teachers and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged an adventurous joint air war exercise.

The press conveys news that statements and articles were published in different countries in support of the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation. NODONG SINMUN carries an article explaining the programme.

Under the headline "Firm Solidarity With Korean People's Struggle for Socialist Cause" the paper conveys foreign public voices supporting the DPRK Government's self-defensive measure.

The paper reports about the celebration of May Day in China and Cuba and introduces achievements of Cuban working people.

Carried in the paper are reports that the Tunisian president clarified the principled stand of his country toward the settlement of the Mideast problem and a meeting of the United Nations economic and social commission for Asia and the Pacific was held.

The paper runs an article titled "double standard is imperialists' tool of domination and interference."

South Korea

Reportage on DPRK's Nuclear Treaty Withdrawal

IAEA Inspection Team Leaves for DPRK

SK0305233393 Seoul YONHAP in English 2331 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Berlin, May 3 (YONHAP)—An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) team left Vienna for North Korea on Sunday to conduct an ad hoc inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities, an IAEA source said Tuesday.

The five-man team will stay in North Korea for 10 days from Tuesday, changing films in cameras and checking other surveillance and sealing equipment, the source said.

The IAEA inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities had been suspended for three months since it was last conducted in late January.

Meanwhile, North Korea was reported to be planning to send a delegation to Vienna soon to discuss problems related to IAEA inspections of its nuclear facilities.

UNSC Said To Plan Resolution for 7 May

SK0405002793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0016 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Washington, May 3 (YONHAP)—The United Nations Security Council is expected to adopt a resolution Friday urging North Korea to reverse its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

China, one of the five permanent members and the last remaining major ally of North Korea, has agreed to the contents of a draft resolution, sources said.

The five permanent security council members held a discussion April 30 on a revised version of a resolution drafted by the United States April 23, according to diplomatic sources here and in the United Nations.

China, which had been opposing any discussion of the North Korean nuclear problem at the U.N. Security Council, had agreed on the revised resolution, the sources said.

As a result, the security council will adopt the first resolution on the North Korean nuclear issue on Friday after further consultations among permanent and nonpermanent members of the council, the sources said.

The resolution calls for proper additional measures to be taken against North Korea if the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) recognizes a violation by North Korea of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The resolution also urges North Korea to stay in the NPT and recommends mutual and simultaneous inspections between South and North Korea and consultations between the IAEA and North Korea.

In another development, China has urged the United States to hold an early high-level contact with North Korea. But the United States was reported to hold to its position that North Korea has to express its intention to stay in the NPT prior to a U.S.-North Korean contact, sources said.

'Official': U.S, DPRK To Resume Talks

SK0405034493 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 4 May 93 p 1

[Text] The United States and North Korea will likely hold their 32d counselor-level contact in Beijing this week to discuss the timing and place for high-level talks, which will be immediately followed by high-level talks.

A relevant ROK Foreign Ministry official said on 3 May: "We expect that the United States will notify the ROK of the plan for counselor-level contact with North Korea in Beijing before long." He also said: "The United States has decided to resume counselor-level contact with North Korea because it favorably assesses the fact that North Korea allowed an International Atomic Energy Agency inspection team to visit Pyongyang for the seventh ad hoc inspection this week."

'Source': U.S., DPRK Unable To Agree

SK0405011793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0059 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Beijing, May 4 (YONHAP)—Plans for a high-level North Korea-U.S. contact as early as this week have hit a snag as both sides refuse to compromise, a western diplomatic source said Monday.

"The U.S. side has been trying to arrange the high-level meeting through last minute working-level talks, but was unable to narrow the opinion gap," the source said.

"The direct vice ministerial negotiations are not likely in any immediate future."

Washington demands that North Korea stay in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and open its two highly suspected installations to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) special inspection as prerequisites to the high-level meeting.

The United States wanted unequivocal signs that North Korea was willing to meet these two demands, but Pyongyang was adamant about refusing the IAEA special inspection, he said.

There was room for hope, however, he said, since North Korea showed flexibility on staying in the NPT, but without compliance with IAEA inspections the high-level meeting was unlikely to produce positive results even if it took place.

Observers here say the U.S. policy is to solve North Korea's nuclear crisis through coordinated action at the United Nations, and sanctions against Pyongyang are inevitable unless the crisis is solved before June 12, when North Korea's NPT withdrawal becomes official.

They say that Washington believes there is a limit to the scope of Beijing's influence on North Korea, and that reports of a North Korea-China border clash attest to this limit.

'Specialists': North To Return to NPT

SK0405025093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Most specialists on unification and opinion leaders in South Korea say North Korea has developed, or is on the verge of developing, nuclear weapons but may return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

They also support the government's unification policies, which put emphasis on national prosperity, coexistence, coprosperity and national consensus, according to a poll Monday.

The Hyundai Research Institute questioned 676 lawmakers, former cabinet ministers and vice ministers, journalists, lawyers and other opinion leaders, including leaders of Chongyojo, the outlawed national union of teachers, from April 22 to April 27 on behalf of the National Unification Board.

Asked about the possibility of North Korea's developing nuclear weapons, 23.2 percent said it was a fait accompli and 40.8 percent said the communist country might develop them within two or three years. In other words, 64 percent answered the North has developed or might soon develop nuclear weapons.

On Pyongyang's returning to the Nonproliferation Treaty, 15.4 percent said "definitely" and 57.2 percent "highly probably." Only 3.1 percent said "never."

On whether the North might accept special inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on two unregistered nuclear facilities, 53.6 percent answered optimistically.

A total of 31.4 percent evaluated the unification policy of the new government as "very good" and 57 percent as "comparatively good."

Asked the best way to get the North to return to the NPT and accepting inspections, 26.2 percent proposed direct contacts between the United States and North Korea, 23.2 percent said international sanctions, 23.1 percent said a direct solution between the two Koreas, and 19.7 percent said a Chinese mediation.

Older and more conservative people leaned toward international sanctions, while younger or more progressive people wanted to see compromises between the two Koreas.

On the Korean national community unification formula, 45 percent said it should be "replenished," 31.1 percent said "a new formula should be worked out" and 20.9 percent said it was "sufficient."

Asked about the unification board, 53.1 percent said it had "improved," 41.6 percent said "no change" and 3.1 percent said it was "not good as before."

Concerning the repatriation of Yi In-mo, a North Korean guerilla fighter, 77.2 percent said it was "right" and 5.6 percent said it was "wrong."

On the possibility of unification this century, 52.8 percent answered "possible."

Minister Postpones Trip to U.S. on Issue

SK0405054693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0516 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—First Assistant Foreign Minister Shin Ki-bok, scheduled to check how the U.N. Security Council adopts its first resolution on North Korea and discuss with U.S. Government officials measures against North Korea's nuclear problem, has postponed his departure for the United States until Thursday or Friday.

Asked if he would try to discuss with Washington officials the desirability of a direct contact between Seoul and Pyongyang on the nuclear issue, he said the situation was not ripe for such a direct contact.

"We must first decide whether it would be of help in solving North Korea's nuclear problem," Shin said, but he added a channel of South-North dialogue "can be opened whenever it is deemed necessary."

Asked about press reports that the U.N. Security Council will adopt its resolution on North Korea on Friday, he said, "It's hard for me to say definitely here and now, but I think everything is proceeding in the direction we want, though the changing situation makes it slower at one time and faster at another time."

On China's stance on the matter, he simply said, "Let's wait and see."

Premier: Nuclear Development Unhelpful

SK0405113093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1109 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Hwang In-song said on Tuesday that the government will renovate programs in the diplomacy and unification areas as well.

"The government will also resolutely improve those laws and systems that stand in the way of realizing the national goal of building an advanced unified democratic country," he said.

In his testimony at the National Assembly session, the prime minister said that if necessary direct inter-Korean contacts will be explored to tackle North Korea's nuclear issue.

At the moment, however, it is more important to convey an express message to North Korea through efforts of international organizations like the United Nations Security Council, he said.

Premier Hwang also emphasized the disadvantageousness of nuclear development.

"The government believes that given geo-political conditions, it would be not helpful to peace on the Korean peninsula to possess nuclear ability," said Hwang, adding that it is not commercially feasible in the immediate future, either, to have nuclear reprocessing capability.

Hwang said the foreign press report that the U.S. sold 580 million dollars worth of weapons to North Korea is believed to be lacking credibility. "I think it is an erroneous report," he said.

Also testifying at the assembly session, Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang said North Korea's rapid collapse would be not a desirable event for the whole of the Korean nation.

He said the government stands to be fully prepared to minimize the South's burden if such an event occurs.

Han, who concurrently serves as national unification minister, said food situation in North Korea has been turning from bad to worse.

"North Korea needs about 6.5 million tons of food grains a year, but 2.07 million tons fell short of the need in 1991 and 1.24 million tons in 1992," Han said.

Because of the shortage, he said, the already insufficient food ration has been further cut and a two-meals-a-day campaign has been going on in which people are urged to skip lunch.

In his testimony, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae said that last year the country's share in the cost of the U.S. military presence in Korea was 2,174 million dollars or 73 percent of the total local expenses of the U.S. Forces in Korea.

Kwon said that an increase in the share despite a reduction in the U.S. Forces in Korea is a time-limit phenomenon based on an agreement already reached between Korea and the United States.

He said he assumes that unless there is a striking change in the amount of local expenses of the U.S. Forces in Korea, a steady increase in Korea's share would be unavoidable through 1995.

"But, we will try to readjust the share taking into account our security conditions and the size of the U.S. Forces in Korea," the defense minister said.

Paper Reports 'Witnessing' Troop Movements in DPRK

SK0405013693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0114 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Brussels, May 3 (YONHAP)—A Belgian newspaper says that North Korea is speeding up the transfer of power to Kim Chong-il because of President Kim Il-song's deteriorating health and that it may militarily provoke South Korea in the process.

LA LIBRE BELGIQUE, in a story titled "Preparations for Transfer of Power in North Korea," said Monday that Kim Il-song's health had worsened quickly over the weekend and reported witnessing unusual developments in North Korea such as the massing of military units around the capital.

The title of the "great leader" might be passed from father to Son as expected with the death of Kim Il-song, it said.

As Kim Chong-il had experienced organized opposition from the military, in 1989 and in 1991, there was a high possibility that he would attempt an armed provocation against the South in an effort to dilute dissent in the military and muster popular support, the paper said.

Official: Seoul May Relax Economic Restrictions on DPRK

SK0405093993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0920 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea considers gradually relaxing its restrictions to allow businessmen to visit North Korea for economic cooperation only if Pyongyang agrees to remain in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), a senior [National] Unification Board [NUB] official said on Tuesday.

This is a softening of the current ban on all types of economic contact until Pyongyang not only returns to the NPT and but also allows special International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and inter-Korean mutual inspections of its nuclear sites.

The NUB official said the board was studying the possibility of developing inter-Korean economic cooperation, ranging from direct trade of goods and trade of raw materials for processing in North Korea to small-scale joint ventures in light industry and large-scale joint ventures, in step with North Korea's attitudes toward calls for its return to the NPT and acceptance of special IAEA and inter-Korean nuclear inspections.

To solve the nuclear problem while not driving North Korea into a corner, it was desirable to work on getting North Korea back into the NPT first and then try to persuade it to accept nuclear inspections, rather than trying to settle the two issues at the same time, he noted.

Such NUB position, however, is apparently not supported by the Foreign Ministry, which argues that dealing [with] the two issues separately is feared to end up giving the North Koreans enough time to cover up their nuclear arms program.

Unification Minister Han Wan-sang had conceived the "gradual approach" because he believed that a peaceful solution required giving North Korea room to save face, and he was consulting with the Foreign and Defense Ministries on this approach, they added.

He told a National Assembly hearing on Monday that Seoul would expand inter-Korean economic cooperation if the nuclear problem were "beginning to be solved," thus paving the way for the inter-Korean relations to develop into the level of a Korean commonwealth.

Meanwhile, Vice Unification Minister Song Yong-tae told reporters Tuesday that talks with North Korea on the nuclear issue were a matter to be considered after watching results of international efforts to solve the issue such as the much-reported high-level meeting between Pyongyang and Washington.

He said direct South-North talks should be carefully studied on the basis of contacts between North Korea and the United States, and between North Korea and the IAEA and other international bodies.

Seoul Willing To Readjust Russia's Debt Schedule

SK0305051293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0452 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—Seoul is willing to negotiate a readjustment of Moscow's loan repayment schedule, a Foreign Ministry official indicated Monday.

Russia had concluded an agreement with the 19-nation Paris Club in April on rescheduling debt repayments, the official pointed out.

"Russia is likely to ask Korea, too, to rechart the dates," he said.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Shokhin is due in Seoul late this month to attend the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC) conference, and he may make a formal request then, the official said.

Seoul has promised 3 billion U.S. dollars in economic aid to Moscow, including 1 billion dollars in cash, but withheld 1.2 billion dollars in tied loans and plant after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Some 330 million dollars worth of consumer products under the tied loans promised for 1991 remain on the docks, and the Seoul government has decided to keep it there until Moscow pays the backed-up interest.

Officials say opinion is split between those who advocate canceling the unshipped portion of the economic aid package and those who insist on keeping the package alive even if it means transferring the aid to commercial-type loans.

The foreign, finance and other involved ministries are to meet soon to study possible alternatives and decide how to renegotiate the loan and its repayment, the official said.

Ministry Announces New Zealand Premier To Visit

SK0105012493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger will visit Seoul May 9-12, a Chongwadae [presidential offices] spokesman announced Saturday.

Bolger will meet with President Kim Yong-sam and discuss political and economic issues in Northeast Asia and bilateral issues, the spokesman said.

They are expected to talk about the North Korean nuclear issue and pledge cooperation for a peaceful solution to the problem.

South Korea and New Zealand normalized relations in 1962.

Polish Envoy Stresses Importance of Economic Ties

SK0205012093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 May 93 p 5

[by Ambassador of Poland Jedrzej Krakowski]

[Text] It is a great honor to address the readers of THE KOREA TIMES on the occasion of Poland's National Day, celebrated for the fourth time in democratic Poland.

As I look back on the road the people of Poland have taken since 1989, I cannot conceal my own feeling of satisfaction and I want to share it with you.

Over the past three years, on the ruins of the communist system, we have laid solid foundations of parliamentary democracy which has passed more than just one test. And we are still busy expanding our democratic institutions and adopting them so as to provide for the ever greater needs of the society and to measure them up to the European standards. Our efforts to restore the country's democratic order have been made easier by the fact that the Polish tradition of democracy reaches back deep into the history. The 3rd day of May is a symbol of this tradition. It commemorates Poland's first constitution adopted in 1791.

Also in the field of economy, the starting condition of which was very difficult, the great sacrifice of the people and the tough but consistent policies of the government are beginning to bear fruits.

Within the less than three years period of transformation we have managed to sustain convertibility of our currency, to reduce inflation, to improve radically the balance of payments and to overcome recession.

We are creating from scratch a modern banking system and the capital market. A large part of our economy has already been privatized. Private companies are beginning to yield profits, thereby providing powerful motivations for going into business.

The favorable development in the real sphere of the Polish economy together with Poland's new international cooperation arrangements—of which our association with EC is the most significant—have resulted in fast growing interest of foreign investors in searching for business opportunities in Poland.

I am especially pleased that among them are also Korean companies, as we consider the Republic of Korea our very important partner.

Korean products like Samsung's telecommunication and hi-fi equipment, Hyundai's computers and cars, Daewoo's TV sets and many others have a good share of the Polish market and enjoy a good opinion. We strongly believe that the drop in trade turnover between Poland and the Republic of Korea which occurred last year mainly due to a necessary restructuring of trade regulations in Poland was incidental and with a new approach of Korean firms our bilateral economic relations will reach again high rate of growth.

Several Korean investment projects are under active consideration. We believe that these projects can be very successful as we offer our Korean partners excellent conditions: cheap but highly qualified labor, abundant natural resources, as well as a large and still fast expanding local market and easy access both to western and Eastern European markets.

The historical similarities of our two countries facilitate cooperation between Poland and Korea on all other fields. Poland having experienced the tragedy of being a divided country understands very well Korean aspiration for the unification and fully supports it. Poland and the Republic of Korea closely cooperate within the framework of UN system. Our governments and social organizations actively promote cultural, scientific and educational exchanges between our societies. Polish people have been observing the great sympathy and understanding the ideas and changes introduced by President Kim Yong-sam aimed at the creation of the New Korea Society.

We believe these endeavors will contribute well not only to the well-being of the Koreans but also to the promotion of democracy in the whole world.

Ministry Names New Ambassadorial Appointments

SK0405073593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—Chae Ui-sok, a research commissioner with the Foreign Ministry's Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS), was named ambassador to Sweden on Tuesday.

Son Myong-hyon, director-general for International Economy Studies at IFANS, takes the helm at the embassy in Singapore while Kim Sung-ho, an IFANS research officer, goes to Libya as the new mission chief.

Cho Kyu-tae, another IFANS research officer, was named ambassador to Yemen and Song Chong-kyong, also of IFANS, was picked as top envoy to Nepal.

Chae, a graduate of Seoul National University Law College born in Okku, North Cholla Province, is a career diplomat who joined the Foreign Ministry in 1956. His overseas posts include counsellor to Tunisia and Senegal, ambassador to Cameroon, Tusinia and the United Nations and consul-general to New York.

He returned from New York as an IFANS research commissioner in July 1991.

The new mission chief to Singapore is a Seoul native who graduated from Brown University in the United States with a degree in economics.

He started out at the Economic Planning Board (EPB) and last served as director-general of National Statistics Bureau before switching over to the Foreign Ministry in January 1988.

He served as minister to Washington, D.C.

Kim Song-ho, of Posong, South Cholla Province, is a Yonsei University graduate of political science and diplomacy who became a diplomat in 1961.

His major assignments include counsellor to Mauritania and France and ambassador to Central African Republic and to Cote d'Ivoire.

He had been with IFANS since July 1991.

New Ambassador to Yemen Cho Kyu-tae majored in German at Seoul National University and joined the Foreign Ministry in 1967.

A native of Seoul, he went to Tokyo as first secretary and to Pakistan as consul-general. He worked at the headquarters in between as director of Cultural Affairs Division, International Trade Division and director for documents.

He had been at IFANS since August 1991.

Song, born in Yesan, Southern Chungchong Province, studied political science at the Seoul National University.

He entered the Foreign Ministry in 1970 and took his first foreign post as vice consul to San Francisco.

He later worked as consul to Egypt, counsellor to Norway and minister to Pakistan before returning to headquarters in July 1991.

Premier: Reform Pace To Be Stepped Up

SK0305133293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1144 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Hwang In-song said on Monday the government cannot slow down the pace of the ongoing reforms. "The reforms should rather be stepped up as time passes by," he said.

Testifying at the National Assembly session, Hwang said the incumbent cabinet should be a "reform cabinet" which should furnish both institutional and administrative backing to the reforms.

The premier said the administration would sharply renovate the existing taxation system in a bid to "foster a social atmosphere in which people could be properly rewarded commensurate with their works."

He also said the basic government position is that the frame of the existing National Security Law should be maintained as it is.

"But, we in the government will progressively consider revising the law if there is a significant change in North Korea's attitude or in other security conditions," Premier Hwang said.

Asked by a legislator if the government were not willing to look into the properties of former presidents, Hwang said the government won't do that because he said the current reforms are not directed toward specific persons.

Also at the floor session, Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang said that the government supports U.S.-North Korea high-level contacts slated for the middle of this month.

Saying that the support is part of the government efforts to stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons, Han said the government also urges negotiations between North Korea and international organizations on the nuclear question.

"Once the nuclear issue begins to get resolved, we will concentrate on expanding economic cooperation with North Korea with an aim at uplifting inter-Korean relations to the level of a South-North commonwealth," he said.

Army Transfers 8 Private Club Members From Key Posts

SK0405073293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0636 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—The army transferred eight colonels involved in Hana-hoe from key posts in the Defense Ministry, on the staff of the joint chiefs of staff, at army headquarters and in the third army command to divisions and other field units on Tuesday.

Hana-hoe is a private club of Korean Military Academy graduates led by former President Chon Tu-hwan while he was still an army general.

Sources said the action, for which army chief of staff Kim Tong-chin recently obtained Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae's approval, was in response to public criticism that Hana-hoe members monopolized key army posts in the capital area.

The eight had served in key army posts for more than one year.

They include Col. Kim Pu-myong, who was moved to assistant division commander from planning officer in the office of the deputy chief of staff for logistics of the army.

The sources said the army would shortly take the same action with lieutenant colonels in Hana-hoe.

Defense Ministry Announces New Spokesman

SK0205011393 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 May 93 p 3

[Text] The Defense Ministry yesterday appointed Kim Yong-chol, chief civil affairs coordinator, as ministry spokesman, replacing Col. Pak Chae-uk.

A native of Kangnung, Kangwon-do, Kim, 55, worked as chief of the procurement support section for years before being assigned to the civil affairs bureau.

The new spokesman graduated from Kyongdong High School, the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and the graduate school of public administration, Dongguk University.

Col. Pak is to be reassigned to the Army Headquarters in the Kyeyongdae Integrated Military Complex south of Taejon.

NSP To Increase Military Intelligence Analysis Role

SK0405015293 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 3 May 93 p 1

[Text] In the light of the major deterioration of the function of the Defense Security Command [DSC] for surveillance over the internal moves of the military as a result of the recent organizational reduction and reorganization of the DSC, the government has decided to significantly increase the function of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP], a civilian information agency, for gathering and analyzing military-related information.

According to the military source of information on 2 May, the NSP expanded and reorganized the National Defense Aide Office during the organizational change it implemented on 24 March. Adding to it a section charged with analyzing military information, the NSP upgraded the office to a bureau. The NSP is considering further expanding the bureau in the future.

Prior to this, during the military personnel actions toward the end of last year, an active duty Army brigadier general who was a national defense aide was promoted to the rank of major general with the upgrading of the NSP post.

This action taken by the government falls in step with "the principle of civilian control" over the military. The action, therefore, is noteworthy in view of the fact that the NSP has nearly suspended the information activities on the military since the 26 October incident in 1979 [the assasination of President Pak Chong-hui] through the Fifth and Sixth Republics.

The Korean Central Intelligence Agency [KCIA], the predecessor of the NSP, once had an armed unit under its direct control after the launch of the agency. Even after the "October Yusin" ['Reformation' of October 17, 1972 in which President Pak invalidated the constitution, dissolved the National Assembly, and declared martial law] the KCIA dispatched its information coordinator to the ROK Army corps commands. However, after the 26 October incident, the NSP was overpowered by the DSC and was unable to exercise its proper right to coordinate state information or to inspect the security affairs over the military as stipulated in the NSP law.

However, with the readjustment of the positions of the information agencies, including the subject measure, following the recent reorganization of the NSP and DSC, the DSC's superiority over the NSP that prevailed during the Fifth and the Sixth Republics is likely to be reversed to the previous condition before the 26 October incident.

The NSP National Defense Aides Office was expanded into three sections in 1989 when Director Om Sam-tak of the Office of Military Manpower Administration was serving as an aide, but only one section dealt with military matters, the other two sections being charged with other affairs.

Taking advantage of the Gulf war in 1991, the Defense Ministry pushed ahead with a plan to upgrade the Joint Chiefs of Staff Information Office into a state information agency by expanding and reorganizing it into a defense information office covering not only military information but overseas military, political, and economic information as well, but the plan was scrapped owing to the NSP's opposition in the course of discussion among the relevant organizations.

An official in the military, commenting on the aforesaid measure, said, "It is natural, in view of the government's will for reform, that the government should restore the NSP's position as a state information agency while suspending the DSC's function of collecting general information. But it is urgent that the government restore the DSC's unique function so that the military can solve its own problems by itself."

Strong Yen Spurs Surge in Korean Auto Exports

SK0405031193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0251 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (YONHAP)—The yen's recent strength has made South Korean cars 2,576 U.S. dollars cheaper on average than comparable Japanese cars in foreign markets, the Korea Auto Manufacturers' Association (KAMA) said Tuesday.

It predicted that as a result exports this year would surpass the record 576,000 cars sold abroad in 1988. Exports are up 72.2 percent for the first four months at 191,069 cars.

If dollar continues below 110 yen, exports will reach 578,000. The goal was 520,000. In the first quarter, the yen rose 4.4 percent against the dollar and the Korean won depreciated 1.7 percent.

For a Japanese car with an export price of 8,027 dollars, the comparable Korean car had an export price of 6,251 dollars during January-March—a gap of 1,776 dollars.

As of April 22, the gap had widened to 2,576 dollars, or 10.6 percent price competitiveness against the end of last year.

The gap was 1,417 dollars last year.

Asian countries, including China and Pakistan, and nations in the Middle East and Latin America are expanding their imports of Korean cars.

Car exports hit 546,300 in 1987 and 576,000 in 1988 and then kept sliding over the following years to mark 457,400 in 1992.

A KAMA spokesman predicted that exports will reach 600,000 if the yen's strength continues.

Meanwhile, the Tongso Research Institute predicted exports of 574,000 cars this year and turnover of 3.71 billion dollars, up 31.2 percent from 1992.

Burma

Khin Nyunt Warns of Threat of 'External Subversion'

BK0405034793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 May 93

[Excerpts] The opening ceremony for the Special Refresher Course No. 6 for doctors was held at Ohndaw Hall in the Central Institute of Public Service in Hlegu at 0845 today. Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, chairman of the National Health Committees, delivered an address at the ceremony. [passage omitted]

Speaking at the ceremony, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained that the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has been giving priority to the objectives of instilling nationalism and a patriotic spirit among the indigenous people and fostering a nationalistic spirit and national solidarity. One of the undertakings being implemented in accordance with these objectives is in holding special refresher courses for people who are in close contact with the indigenous people. The objective of the course is to keep these people well-informed of the true facts. These people are to disseminate information and organize the people to instill nationalism, patriotism, and pride in their race and heritage. [passage omitted]

Continuing, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained that the present situation in the country demands a strong sense of nationalism and the emergence of patriotic and vigilant heroes who are capable of repulsing the danger of internal and external subversion. Right now the SLORC is giving priority to restoring and revitalizing the spirit of national solidarity and nationalism, which temporarily declined during the events [of 1988]. Some major legal neocolonialist countries are employing various means at every opportunity by using legal organizations as well as insurgent terrorists who are outside the legal framework to undermine the interests of Myanmar [Burma].

He said it is known to all that these countries are interfering and employing various means to denigrate and undermine the National Convention which is being held as a major national undertaking in Myanmar to draft an enduring state constitution. He said as the patriotic people strive to spread the conviction that drafting an enduring state constitution is the duty of all citizens, an enduring state constitution will emerge no matter how others interfere. He urged the trainees to hold this conviction.

Continuing, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt said that while the National Convention is being held successfully in stages, illegal insurgent organizations, which have consistently opposed the holding of the National Convention, are stepping up their atrocities in planting mines to kill innocent auto passengers and the people of entire villages in order to instill fear and anxiety among the public. Meanwhile, some organizations under the influence of some major neocolonialist countries are using the phrases human rights and rights of indigenous people in colluding with terrorist insurgents, creating fabrications to undermine Myanmar's international image, and drawing up all sorts of schemes. These countries are providing solid funding and are using their full influence and power. He said: The threats from these outside influences, interferences, and machinations should not be ignored, nevertheless the trainees should view these threats objectively and strive to become patriotic people capable of organizing and guiding the indigenous people on the right path. [passage omitted]

Official Notice Establishes National Airline

BK0105110093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] The Ministry of Trade issued Notification No. 12/93 today forming the Myanmar [Burma] Airways International Company Limited. This notification gives details on the minutes of the original members of the joint company limited, regulations, capital, and registration.

Energy Minister Inspects Natural Gas Pipeline Route

BK0105103693 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Minister of Energy U Khin Maung Thein, accompanied by responsible officials from the Ministry of Energy, today toured the coastal area of Shangan village, Dedaye Township, Irrawaddy Division, in a helicopter to inspect the construction of a natural gas pipeline from the Martaban offshore area. After meeting with those who welcomed him at Shangan village, the minister inspected the area through which the pipeline will be constructed.

Next, the minister and his party visited Kyungyaung village near the Toe River in Irrawaddy Division and inspected the route of the pipeline. The minister then visited Tawkayan, Letkhotkon, Wapalauktauk, and Danu villages in Kungyangon Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division. The minister returned to Yangon in the afternoon after visiting the newly restored Danu Pagoda where he was welcomed by Lieutenant Colonel Samatu, local commander, and party.

Some of the natural gas produced by the No. 1 Yadana natural gas well in the Martaban offshore area will be sold to a neighboring country while some will be brought into the country for production of electrical power, distribution to factories, and production of chemical fertilizer in the shortest possible time.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Peacekeepers in Cambodia To 'Stick to Their Guns'

BK0405072493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0254 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian police serving with the United Nations peacekeeping force an Cambodia will stick to their guns until advised otherwise in the current turmoil in that country, Inspector-General of Police Haniff Omar said Monday.

The next move would depend entirely on the directive of the United Nations but we would stick to our guns until we get some other advice, he told reporters here.

He was commenting on the present unrest in the war-torn country where guerrillas of the Khmer Rouge faction, which has withdrawn from UN-supervised general election later this month, is accused of launching attacks to disrupt the election process.

Haniff said in spite of the situation, he saw no reason for any changes to be made for the time-being.

More than 220 Malaysian police personnel and an 850-strong Malaysian battalion are serving with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Haniff said Malaysian police personnel were in Cambodia as a civilian police force to oversee a peaceful election under UN supervision in line with the Paris peace accord signed in October 1990. There isn't much that we can do because we are not there as a fighting force, he added.

The elections are scheduled from May 23 to 27.

Party Agrees To Expel USNO From National Front

BK0205140793 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 2 May 93

[Text] Gerakan Party President, Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, said a decision had been taken that USNO [United Sabah National Organization] should be expelled from the Barisan Nasional [National Front]. The decision was taken during the party's subcommittee meeting held last Monday. The party's decision will be submitted to the Barisan Nasional leadership tomorrow. Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik issued the statement to newsmen after opening the Johor state Gerakan party representatives meeting in Muar.

He said the decision was not submitted earlier to the Barisan Nasional because of a misunderstanding between him and the party's secretary general, Tan Sri Chan Choon Teik.

An official letter on the party's decision will be submitted to Barisan Nasional Secretary General, Mr. Ghafar Baba. He said he was only aware that the party had not submitted the decision after Mr. Ghafar stated yesterday that one more Barisan Nasional component party has yet to submit its decision.

Mahathir: USNO Expelled

BK0305134393 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] USNO [United Sabah National Organization] says it had already anticipated the National Front's decision to expel it from the front. USNO Assistant Secretary General Haji Nasir Mohamed Noor said he will not give further comments until the party receives an official letter regarding the expulsion from the National Front. He said party president Datuk Amir Kahar Tun Mustapha similarly prefers to wait for the official letter before making any comments.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir, as National Front chairman, said in Jitra, Kedah that USNO had been expelled from the National Front after all component parties of the National Front had agreed to expel it for forming a coalition government with the Sabah United Party [PBS] in Sabah. He also said there is no need for six USNO members of the Sabah State Legisative Assembly, who have joined UMNO [United Malays National Organization], to answer an USNO letter demanding that they give reasons for their defection to determine their status.

Mahathir Hails Enhanced Relations With PRC

BK0405102293 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 May 93

[By Vijayan Menon]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri.—Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said economic linkages between Malaysia and China would grow in the future, bringing with it more mutual benefits and closer understanding.

The prime minister said he foresaw the development of greater cooperation between the Governments of Malaysia and China as the economies of the two countries expanded.

"At the same time, there will inevitably be more contacts between the peoples of our two countries.

"Whether through government or private sponsorship, these exchanges of visits will bring benefits to both sides."

Dr. Mahathir was speaking at the Malaysia-China Friendship Association's [MCFA] dinner at Istana Hotel tonight.

The time has now come to maximise the positive aspects of the links between the Malaysians and the Chinese of Mainland China.

"There is a lot of benefit to be derived from the linkages and the friendship of Malaysian and Chinese peoples. Today, Malaysians are investing and helping to develop China."

Dr. Mahathir said China with its 1.2 billion people was the biggest importer of Malaysian palm oil.

The Chinese are also investing and proposing many joint venture projects in Malaysia.

"The economic linkages and interaction between China and Malaysia will grow in the future. And it will be to the benefit of both countries.

"In order that there should be greater understanding of each other and to promote greater cooperation in other fields besides economics, a body such as the MCFA is useful."

As a nongovernmental body, the MCFA is in a better position to take initiatives without committing the governments. It will not be hamstrung by bureaucratic red tape or formalities.

"On the other hand, if its initiative is contrary to official policies, it will not be difficult to reverse or to drop it."

Yet it can prove useful in creating the right climate for commerce. Contacts and networks are crucial in business.

"Nothing facilitates trade more than the closeness of the relationship between the individuals doing the business. Doing business with total strangers is fraught with all kinds of risks."

Dr. Mahathir said the association could provide a forum for individuals in Malaysia who were interested in China to meet.

"A counterpart association in China can provide similar facilities for Chinese nationals in China. The contact and interaction between the two associations will provide the opportunities for Malaysian and Chinese businessmen to meet."

He said the association could provide information on China to increase the knowledge of Malaysians about things Chinese.

"This should include the culture and way of life of the Chinese. There is no doubt that such knowledge will not only promote friendship and understanding but will also facilitate commerce and trade.

"Misunderstandings too can be eliminated or tackled early."

He said the relationship between the two countries had not been good for a long time because of ideological differences.

"The past is very much forgotten and in many ways irrelevant."

Dr. Mahathir said China now recognised that Malaysia was an independent nation with its own citizens.

"That some of the Malaysians have roots in China is an accident of history. The roots are not denied. Indeed, they are acknowledged along with lingual affinities.

"If they contribute towards easy friendship, that is not a bad thing. Malaysia also recognises China as an independent nation," he said.

The fact that a lot of Malaysians have roots in China is accepted, but they are Malaysians and their relationship with China is based on their being Malaysians albeit with Chinese roots.

"If this contributes towards easier contacts and understanding, it is welcomed.

"Ideologically, we are still different. But Malaysia's policy is to ignore these differences in the conduct of her foreign relations.

"As much as we do not wish to export or impose our ideology on others, we are sure others, including China, will not want to propagate its ideology here.

"Nor should we want to interfere in the internal affairs of each other. These parameters need to be understood and propagated by the MCFA."

He said it was a matter of constant surprise for the Malays to find that there were more Muslims in China than Malays in Malaysia.

There was a healthy curiosity, he said, which could help foster understanding and friendship between the two peoples.

Chinese Ambassador Jin Guihua said the Chinese leadership attached great importance to the strengthening of the long-standing friendship between Malaysia and China.

He said Dr. Mahathir had made indelible contributions towards the development of Malaysia-China friendship.

"It is precisely after his assuming premiership and thanks to his liberal policies and foresight that the friendly cooperative relationship between the two nations has grown by leaps and bounds and entered a new era," he said.

Singapore

Daily Hails Success of Premier's China Visit

BK3004055093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Apr 93 p 26

[Editorial: "Goh's China Triumph"]

[Text] Mr. Goh Chok Tong's just-concluded visit to China has been noteworthy for the gains in two areas: building on a connection that will help Singapore in immeasurable ways, while China works at being what could be the next century's only new superpower, and the high-value investments that would give an external economy the required momentum. Without one, the other would be a tough grind. Relations are as strong as they are—although formalised only in 1990—because Mr. Lee Kuan Yew cultivated the Beijing leadership patiently over long years. The networking was to reach out to the provinces and the main cities. Those who have dealings with China know how well such connections or guanxi travel. For Singapore, growing influence with Beijing comes in several forms. One expression of that is its choice as venue for the meeting this week between representatives of China and Taiwan, the first formal contact after the Nationalist retreat in 1949 at the end of the civil war. But suitors [of] a resurgent China would not lack. Nations which see China in market terms or diplomatic leverage to ensure peaceable conditions in the Asia- Pacific region need to keep plugging away.

Prime Minister Goh, in his sessions with the Chinese leaders, mainly President Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng, makes a necessary contribution to that relationship. Next month, Deputy Prime Minister Ong Teng Cheong leads a team of businessmen to China, while China's trade minister, Madam Wu Yi, is due here on an investment mission. Shandong Province, a new target of Singaporeans, plans to open an investment office here. The traffic thickens.

All that appears to mark a shift of emphasis in Singapore-China ties from the bridge-building of the first two decades to economic cooperation as Singapore strives to prove as Holland and Switzerland have that being small does not matter. Here, Mr. Goh struck a rich lode. The past week's reports out of China all stressed one thing: Singapore is going for niche-slotting by offering its expertise in infrastructure building. This makes sense. Competing with the Taiwanese and Hongkongers in goods and consumer services, while not to be abandoned, is an unequal contest. The Cantonese and Hokkiens have the edge in funding, clan connections, and distribution networks in South China. But in transferring the skills in what Singapore does best—building and management of industrial parks, whole new towns, port and airport construction, roads and subway systems, telecommunication, and power grids—Singapore has a winner.

What is significant is that the organisations such as PUB [Public Utilities Board], Telecom, Temasek Holdings, and the Singapore Technologies Group would not have the big-ticket works in Shanxi province (power station), Ningbo (port), Wuxi and Suzhou (industrial parks the size of Jurong estate) all to themselves. Private builders are breaking in, proof that Madam Wu's observation about Singapore investors being small potatoes (her definition: projects of under U.S.$3 million each) is passe. The magnate, Mr. Ng Teng Fong, is reportedly well placed to win a contract to upgrade Shenzhen Airport and its environs. The Chinese say this is worth $1.6 billion. A Singaporean-Thai consortium is wrapping up details on a $300 million deal to build a township, port facilities, and power plant in the Shandong coastal city of Longkou. Qingdao and Jinan airports, also in Shandong, are up for upgrading at a cost of $60 million. The provincial authorities have asked if Singapore would be interested.

As set by Mr. Goh, the pace is a cracker. Much more than just groundwork has been laid. Singapore businessmen, small potatoes or otherwise, could not now say that the path to China is hard. But China, for now, remains potential about to be realised. It should not be overlooked that Singapore has an abiding interest in the economies of Southeast Asia, principally Malaysia and Indonesia. This is home turf. The income stream from trade and investment has long flowed, and security links are firm.

Government Investment Arms Ready for PRC, Hong Kong

BK2804130993 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 27 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] SINGAPORE—Singapore's main government investment arms are gearing up to invest in China and have opened offices in Hongkong.

The Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) recently opened an office in the colony, sharing space leased last year by Temasek Holdings.

The Economic Development Board, whose functions these days include helping Singapore companies identify regional investment opportunities, has had an office in the colony for some years.

A source said Hongkong was chosen as the operational base for the two government investment holding companies because of its good infrastructure, including excellent communications and easy access to China.

He added that although Hongkong would be returned by the British to the mainland in 1997, it would still play a key role in the development of China.

While Temasek has already identified several projects in China, including plans to take a stake in a resort project in Kunming being developed by the Keppel Group's Straits Steamship Land, the GIC is not known to have made any investments in China as yet.

However, GIC officers have been visiting various parts of the country. Huang Shiqiang, deputy general manager of the state owned Fujian Investment & Enterprise Corporation (FIEC), recently disclosed that GIC officials visited Fujian last year to explore investment opportunities. Besides Hongkong the GIC has offices in five other overseas locations—New York, San Francisco, Tokyo, London, and Frankfurt.

Temasek, which has been more aggressive in overseas investments, set up Temasek Holdings (HK) Ltd in December 1991, and opened its office in Hongkong last year. The office is headed by Temasek assistant vice-president Jonathan Lee, who is assisted by two support staff, one a Singaporean and the other a Hongkonger.

China's commercial counsellor in Singapore, Zhu Zhenyuan, recently said the Chinese government had approved 421 projects from Singapore in the first three quarters of the year—a big jump from the 629 projects committed between 1979 and 1991.

PRC Sets Up Firm To Manage $20 Billion Reserves

BK2804125993 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 26 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] SINGAPORE—A Singapore company set up by China's central bank will be the Chinese government's vehicle to invest in financial markets here and around the world.

Formed late last year as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the People's Bank of China the Investment Company of the People's Republic of China (Singapore) Pte Ltd [Private Limited] is the central bank's first overseas operating entity to handle China's foreign reserves of over US$20 billion (S$32 billion [Singapore dollars]).

A London representative office opened by the central bank in the middle of last year acts only as a listening post and does not dip its hands in financial deals or business transactions.

Although the Singapore subsidiary has a paid-up capital of only US$2 and an authorised capital of US$50 million, it is expected to deal in hundred of millions of dollars from its office on the 28th level of UOB [United Overseas Bank] Plaza, next to Raffles Place.

It was registered originally as the Investment Company of the People's Republic of China Pte Ltd on Dec 9, 1992 with lawyers Lee Kian Huat and Damien Yeow Ngin Wah of Shook Lin & Bok as its two nominee shareholders.

According to a spokesman from the company, the subsidiary comes under the State Administration and Exchange Controls division of the People's Bank of China.

Headed by managing director Guo Xiao Ping, it expects to have about two dozen staff including eight foreign exchange dealers. Apart from Mr Guo and several others from the central bank's head office including forex department head Zhu Wen Xiang, the majority will be hired here.

The treasury staff will deal in equities, government bonds, foreign exchange and properties on a worldwide basis.

All our activities are for investment purposes," said the spokesman.

Last week, central bank deputy governor Chen Yuan said the office would oversee the growing trend of Chinese banks raising funds in Singapore as well as managing the country's reserves.

Among the Chinese banks that have raised funds in Singapore are the Industrial & Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), the country's largest, the Bank of China, the Agricultural Bank of China and Shanghai-based Bank of Communications. Chinese banks have also set up over 500 affiliates around the world.

Although Mr Guo would not comment on the new company or the bank's presence here, it is believed that Singapore was chosen as the central bank's first fully-operational overseas arm because of its location, good infrastructure and communications, and its wellsupervised financial centre.

Bankers welcomed the new participant.

Overseas Union Bank president Peter Seah said: "This shows that the Chinese central bank recognises Singapore as a leading financial centre through which it can manage its reserves and conduct its financial activities. It is also a demonstration of the confidence in our financial system."

Another leading local banker remarked: "China's central bank will add depth to Singapore's financial centre. The new office here could also raise the profile of China's currency, the renminbi."

Currently, the renminbi is a non-convertible currency. It was only from last month that the central bank allowed a limited amount to be taken out of the country. However, the Chinese government is expected to allow free convertibility in the near future.

Cambodia

Suspected KR Ambush UN Convoy; Peacekeepers Injured

BK0405095893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 4 (AFP)—Suspected Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrillas ambushed a convoy of U.N. peacekeepers Tuesday, wounding at least five Dutch marines and a Japanese policeman, U.N. officials said.

Up to nine people may have been injured. The severity of their injuries was not known, and some of the injured were evacuated by helicopter to hospitals in Thailand, the officials said.

The midday attack occurred in the resistance zone near the Thai border which is controlled by the Khmer Rouge and FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] guerrillas as the armed Dutch soldiers were escorting a U.N. electoral team, the officials said.

No electoral workers were immediately reported injured, and further details were not available.

Japanese Policeman Killed in Ambush

OW0405113693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—A Japanese civilian policeman was reportedly killed and two other Japanese were injured in an ambush in northwest Cambodia, the National Police Agency said Tuesday [4 May].

The policeman was believed to be Haruyuki Takada, the agency said. The agency said Takada had been an assistant police inspector at the Okayama Prefectural Police Headquarters prior to his assignment in Cambodia. The agency said the two other Japanese suffered serious injuries. They were tentatively identified as Eizaburo Taniguchi, a former police sergeant at the Ishikawa Prefectural Police Headquarters and Kazuharu Yagi, a former assistant police inspector in Miyagi Prefecture.

Last month, Atsuhito Nakata, a Japanese UN volunteer in Cambodia, was murdered April 8.

UN Reports Khmer Rouge Ambushed Indian Peacekeepers

BK0405085693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0726 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 4 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge were responsible for ambushing a convoy of Indian peacekeepers in eastern Cambodia and wounding five of them in an attack coinciding with Monday's assault on Siem Reap, the United Nations determined Tuesday.

Four Indian soldiers serving with the U.N. peacekeeping mission were lightly wounded by shrapnel, while a fifth had his leg amputated Monday [3 May] after the attack in Kompong Cham Province, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

The Khmer Rouge ambushed the convoy of three vehicles with rocket-propelled grenades and assault rifles for about 10 to 15 minutes, he said.

"The Indian troops retaliated very vigorously," Falt said, with six rounds of 60mm mortar plus 300 rounds of automatic weapon and machine-gun fire.

The ambush coincided with the Khmer Rouge attack on Siem Reap, the home of the Angkor temples, in which 300 guerrillas captured the airport and overran the city before being repulsed by Phnom Penh government troops.

The Kompong Cham attack occurred in the same district and in the same manner in which a Colombian civilian police officer was killed on Friday night. The United Nations has not assessed blame for that attack.

Ministry Denounces Khmer Rouge Attack in Siem Reap

BK0305123793 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 3 May 93

["Statement" by the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia; dated 3 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Further conducting their poisonous and dangerous maneuvers to oppose the final stage of implementation of the Paris Accord and to oppose the entire Cambodian nation with the darkest aim of causing the Cambodian People's Armed Forces to be bogged down with them in rekindling the war [words indistinct] and the darkest aim of hindering and sabotaging the planned UN-supervised election, the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels and their allies have intensified their attacks on regions under the control of the State of Cambodia [SOC] in order to expand the territory under their control, reduce the regions in which elections will be held, and increasingly reduce the number of voters.

As a matter of fact, at 0500 on 3 May, Khmer Rouge troops, in cooperation with National Army of Independent Cambodia forces of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, launched a large-scale attack from several directions on Siem Reap provincial town as well as on the provincial airport, power plant, upper market, and a concrete bridge [word indistinct] adjacent to the provincial town. As a result, four people were killed and (?11) others wounded, three combatants were wounded, and seven houses, two tractors, and a mechanical tiller were set ablaze.

Exercising their right to self-defense in an appropriate and timely manner, Siem Reap Province's armed unit and the 4th Military Region command courageously counterattacked and resisted the attack. As a result, eight soldiers of the two warmongering and bloodthirsty groups were killed, two others were captured, and some others were wounded [words indistinct] they retreated in shame. We restored normalcy to the town at 1000 on the same day.

The SOC Defense Ministry vehemently denounces this warmongering violation committed by the Khmer Rouge's Party of Democratic Kampuchea and its allies. It calls on the international community and the United Nations in its tasks being undertaken by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] to take tough and decisive measures to force the two factions to respect and abide by Security Council Resolutions 792 and 810. This is to ensure that the elections can be held freely and correctly in May.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 3 May

Radio VGNUFC Reports Fighting

BK0405003693 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Reports from Siem Reap Province say that on 3 May, Cambodian soldiers, civil servants, and people in and around Siem Reap town rose up and attacked the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppet leaders, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys. The reports added that the soldiers, civil servants, and people attacked and completely destroyed the Vietnam puppet's 4th Military Region Command and wounded its commander, General Long Sopheap. The general escaped but is being chased by Cambodian soldiers, civil servants, and people, who also have complete control the Siem Reap town airfield. As for the police office in Siem Reap town, it has been completely burned down. The reports added that Cambodian soldiers and people around Siem Reap town have also taken control of a stretch of Route 6 from Angkrong to Roluos. They have also swept Svay Thom and occupied the stretch of road from Siem Reap town to Phnum Kraom. They are also in complete control of the entire Angkor Thom area, and so on.

The report also said that Cambodian soldiers, civil servants, and people in and around Siem Reap town have revolted against the Vietnamese enemy and puppet leaders because:

1. The soldiers and civil servants are starving and have not been paid. The currency is no longer in circulation and they cannot buy anything. They, their wives, and their children are hungry and almost starved to death.

2. They continue to be forced by the Vietnamese enemy and puppet leaders to attack this and that place, and continue to die and sustain injuries.

3. It is also because the whole of Cambodia, particularly His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, have opposed the dirty and messy UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia election which is aimed at killing the Cambodian nation and people.

Therefore, they have no other choice but to unite, rise up, and attack and completely smash the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppet leaders in Siem Reap town and in Siem Reap Province to enable themselves to survive, to earn a living, and to contribute to liberating the country, and thus enable it to have security and peace with independence.

Government Holds News Conference

BK0405054693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0533 GMT 4 May 93

[by Sheri Prasso]

[Text] PHNOM PENH, May 5 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government said Tuesday commercial flights had resumed to the northwestern city of Siem Reap and that Angkor Wat was again safe for tourists after an attack by the Khmer Rouge.

"It's safe today. There is no problem," senior government adviser Uch Kiman told a press conference.

The Kampuchea Airlines managing director Tep Hann said the twice-daily fights had resumed to Siem Reap and that the morning flight had gone and come back carrying tourists without incident.

Some people were on the flight going to Siem Reap, he said, but did not have exact figures.

However, the U.S. government has issued a travel advisory warning Americans to stay away from Siem Reap. Japanese travel agencies have also stopped taking tour groups to the Angkor monuments.

None of the hundreds of 11th century Angkor temples was damaged during the pre-dawn attack Monday by up to 300 Khmer Rouge guerrillas, Uch Kiman said.

The guerrillas briefly captured the airport—where thousands of tourists land to visit Angkor Wat each year—and rampaged through the town looting and destroying civilian and U.N. houses before being driven back in a six-hour battle.

No damage to the airport was reported.

Some of the approximately 100 tourists braving the risks to visit Angkor were evacuated to secured locations by U.N. peacekeepers, while others said they were told to stay in the safety of their hotels.

A frightened Austrian tourist was shot in the leg as he fled towards the airport straight into the fighting. He was not seriously injured, the U.N. spokesman said.

The latest government death toll for the attack stands at 19—14 Khmer Rouge attackers, one FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] member, one government soldier and three civilians.

The United Nations could not verify the figure, counting only seven dead, including four Khmer Rouge.

Government military spokesman General Pann Thay said two members of the opposition FUNCINPEC party were operating as "commandos" to help the Khmer Rouge during their raid on Siem Reap.

The general said a colonel in the FUNCINPEC army drove around in the party's campaign car during the Khmer Rouge attack and started shooting at random.

He said government soldiers had captured the man, but did not name him. The general also said a FUNCINPEC member who threw a grenade during the attack was shot and killed by the government.

FUNCINPEC rejected the allegation as unacceptable and groundless.

"This is the tactic of one party that also accuses FUNCINPEC because it wants to bring down our populaity during the election campaign," said FUNCINPEC Brigadier General Ung Bonty.

FUNCINPEC said in a statement about the charge that the government was trying to deceive people ahead of the election to trick them into thinking FUNCINPEC was cooperating with the Khmer Rouge.

The United Nations is scheduled to hold elections in Cambodia from May 23 to 27.

SPK Reports Attack

BK0405060893 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0348 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 4—Monday's brief capture by the Khmer Rouge of Siem Reap airport, where thousands of foreign tourists land each year to visit the Angkor Wat temple, strikes a blow at the symbolic heart of Cambodia in the run-up to U.N. elections this month.

Siem Reap, gateway to hundreds of 11th-century carved sandstone temples, represents the essence of Khmer civilization and has been a focal point of the Khmer Rouge offensive during years of civil unrest.

They came the closest ever to capturing it just before dawn Monday. Despite the presence of 20,000 U.N. peacekeepers in Cambodia, the guerrillas launched an offensive that succeeded in briefly capturing the airport, looting and burning U.N. and civilian houses in the city center and attacking the city power plant before government forces drove them away.

"This is the first time they ever attacked us here," said Phnom Penh government soldier Pep Heng, who showed journalists the bloody bodies of Khmer Rouge guerrillas left lying in the gutter outside Siem Reap after the attack.

In all, 17 Cambodians were killed, 13 of them Khmer Rouge attackers, according to the Phnom Penh Government.

The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), however, counted just seven dead—two civilians, four Khmer Rouge and a government soldier.

No U.N. peacekeepers were injured, but one of the approximately 100 tourists who had to be evacuated from motels to the safety of underground bunkers was shot in the leg as he tried to flee on a motorbike, driving into the fighting at the airport, said U.N. spokesman Eric Falt.

While U.N. and government officials are unanimous in saying that the forces commanded by the notorious one-legged Khmer Rouge general Ta Mok would not have the manpower to hold onto Siem Reap, they also say just a brief capture would be enough of a show of strength to destabilize the area ahead of the May 23-27 elections.

Already, Khmer Rouge guerrillas control half the province starting from the border with Thailand. They have been able to move farther south, surrounding the city on both sides since the arrival of peacekeepers in March 1991.

"If they had just succeeded in taking Siem Reap for one or two hours, they could make big propaganda," government senior advisor and deputy minister Khieu Kanharit said.

"Siem Reap is well-known around the world," he said. "If they stop the tourists from coming, it will be both a political and economic gain."

U.N. official predicted that attack [words indistinct] telling AFP just 10 days ago that they were prepared for it many times.

The attempt to capture Siem Reap coincided with more attacks against U.N. peacekeepers in eastern Kompong Cham province, gunmen firing rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons at an armed convoy of peacekeepers from India injured five of them with shrapnel.

The attack occurred near the place where a Colombian U.N. police [words indistinct] wounded and another from Malaysia seriously injured last Friday [30 April].

While the United Nations is reluctant to assign blame, the part of the province where the attacks occurred is heavily infiltrated with Khmer Rouge.

In another attack Saturday night, unidentified attackers threw three hand grenades into a camp manned by Dutch U.N. peacekeepers, injuring one of them.

Despite the mounting violence, the United Nations has said it intends to go through with the elections, replacing civilian U.N. electoral workers with soldiers if necessary.

The U.N. mandate once dictated that a neutral political environment was necessary before elections could be held. But the idea has been abandoned in favor of the "most neutral environment possible [words indistinct] circumstances," according to senior U.N. officials.

Khmer Rouge Executed Ethnic Vietnamese

BK0405074893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0741 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] PHNOM PENH, May 4 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge guerrillas sought out and executed an ethnic Vietnamese settler during their attack on Siem Reap, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday.

A Khmer Rouge unit numbering 40 to 50 men went through the streets of the city "inquiring about the whereabouts of Vietnamese," U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

They entered a carpenter's shop and held three men at gunpoint whom they believed to be ethnic Vietnamese, executing one 26-year-old at point blank range, Falt said.

The two others fled, but one was shot in the back and injured and the other escaped, he said.

Siem Reap residents told AFP that the Khmer Rouge went to several houses and sought out Vietnamese settlers.

At the home of Sithra Cheat, 40, the Khmer Rouge stole gold and shot her husband in the arm after threatening them with a B-40 rocket.

"They shot at my husband because they said he looked Vietnamese," she said. "They took all my belongings and they robbed all the people here."

The Khmer Rouge believe Vietnamese forces still occupy Cambodia four years after Hanoi says they withdrew.

Vietnamese troops invaded in late 1978 to end the Khmer Rouge's bloody reign that left up to one million Cambodians dead.

U.N. officials in Siem Reap have said that a hardline unit of Khmer Rouge was sent in from the faction's headquarters to carry out massacres of ethnic Vietnamese populations.

At least 33 ethnic Vietnamese were killed in March when the unit attacked a floating village of fishermen, prompting a riverine exodus of ethnic Vietnamese to Vietnam that grew to more than 20,000 people.

Tourists Try To Flee

BK0405093693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 4 May 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, May 5 (AFP)—Dozens of tourists and United Nations personnel tried to get out of the city of Siem Reap Tuesday as commercial and U.N. flights resumed following a six-hour attack and brief takeover of the airport by the Khmer Rouge that left up to 19 people dead, eyewitnesses said.

While the Phnom Penh government declared that the nearby Angkor Wat temple complex was again safe for tourism, dozens headed for the airport fearing that Monday's pre-dawn attack by up to 300 Khmer Rouge would happen again. [passage omitted covered by first and second referent items]

But a freelance photographer at the airport said tourists were clamoring to get on a U.N. flight that was being filled by U.N. personnel also trying to leave.

Peacekeepers of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) told the tourists they had to take the commercial flights, causing at least one heated argument, he said.

The morning Kampuchea Airlines flight was packed with tourists, who at one point scrambled in a panic to get into the airport's bunkers with their suitcases after a rumor spread through the airport that the Khmer Rouge were nearby, the photographer said.

Several aid agency personnel were also trying to leave, he said.

No extra flights were planned, U.N. and Kampuchea Airlines officials said. [passage omitted]

The United Nations has declared a low-level alert "to remind UNTAC personnel that this is a very dangerous country," the U.N. spokesman said.

U.N. peacekeepers from Poland fired several thousand rounds from their weapons at the Khmer Rouge as they attacked a U.N. logistics base, he said.

A U.N. warehouse was destroyed by rocket fire. New Zealand deminers also returned fire when they came under attack, Falt said.

The government raised the death toll in the attack to 19—14 Khmer Rouge attackers, one member of the opposition FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, one government soldier and three civilians.

The United Nations could not verify the figure, counting only nine dead, incluing four Khmer Rouge, and 21 wounded. [passage omitted]

Government Links FUNCINPEC With Attack

BK0405110993 Hong Kong AFP in English 1055 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 4 (AFP)—Members of the opposition FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party fled their office in Siem Reap and went into hiding, fearing for their lives after the Phnom Penh government accused them of helping the Khmer Rouge attack the city, a party official said Tuesday.

"The head of the office... has gone into hiding," said FUNCINPEC political advisor Ung Huot. "A lot of our staff had to flee. The office is now closed."

He said that government soldiers wanted to harm the FUNCINPEC members, linking them with Monday's pre-dawn raid on Siem Reap.

The government military spokesman, General Pann Thay, charged that FUNCINPEC members acted as "commandos" during the Khmer Rouge attack, launching grenades and using their campaign car to shoot indiscriminately around the city.

He said government troops shot and killed one FUNCINPEC member and captured another, who they said was a colonel in the faction's Army.

The United Nations could not confirm the allegation.

"It did not happen. This is just a fabrication," Ung Huot said. "They stayed in their office during the attack. We are certain there is no one involved from the FUNCINPEC side."

He said FUNCINPEC requested U.N. peacekeepers to guard the party premises and to investigate the allegation.

Sihanouk Explains Absence From Country

BK0305061593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 May 93

[Message from Prince Norodom Sihanouk; dated 28 April—read by announcer]

[Text] My most profound respects to the venerated supreme patriarchs, other high-ranking Buddhist scholars, and the entire Buddhist clergy; beloved compatriots:

First of all, I, Norodom Sihanouk—your prince father, grandfather, and great-grandfather—would like to extend my most sincere affection and veneration to the supreme patriarchs, other high-ranking Buddhist scholars, and the entire Buddhist clergy as well as my undying love and affection to all my compatriots. I ask your pardon and understanding for not being able to return to the beloved Cambodian motherland in the very near future because I am experiencing an unexpected recurrence of ill-health and need a certain period of time to be rechecked and treated by the Chinese doctors.

Moreover, as the dynamic election campaign is now underway in our Cambodian motherland, it is also necessary for me to:

A. Remain outside the battle of speeches or pronouncements by some extremist politicians and political parties that only want to win, to the point that they no longer care about right or wrong and whether or not they harm the interests of our nation and people.

b. Remain above all political parties, which means that I own no political party, that I only have the entire Cambodian motherland and all Cambodian people. I am not committed to any political party and I am also not involved in the struggle for any power, administration, or government. My only wish is to see peace and happiness brought to our unfortunate motherland and people.

I fully believe that peace will return to Cambodia only if there is national reconciliation. This reconciliation is possible only when all of us show understanding and empathise with one another, forgive one another, let bygones be bygones, have kind hearts, reestablish contacts, avoid at all costs the use of all types of violence, and place superior national interests above the personal interests of each group, clique, or political party.

In conclusion, I and my wife—princess mother and grandmother Norodom Monique Sihanouk—would like to humbly take leave of you and extend best wishes to the supreme patriarchs, other high-ranking Buddhist scholars, and the entire Buddhist clergy. We wish you and all compatriots the four blessings of Lord Buddha: longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment.

Beijing, 28 April

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

CPP To Continue Reconciliation Policy After Polls

BK0405092793 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 30 Apr 93

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Reuniting National Forces To Rebuild and Develop the Country Is the Only Goal and Ideal of the Cambodian People's Party"; date not given]

[Text] Under all circumstances, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], which was born from among the people and has shared weal and woe with them, has constantly maintained its only sublime desire and goal to reunite the Cambodians who are patriotic and love democracy and peace, regardless of their political persuasion or past, to jointly achieve the cause of independence, peace, national reconciliation, and national development.

During its 14-year leadership, the CPP's ideal has clearly been seen through its concrete activities. The 11-point policy of the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation, which was put forth and implemented throughout the country in 1979, reunited the great national solidarity forces around the CPP to prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, to defend the rebirth of the entire Cambodian nation, and to heal the motherland's serious wound left over by the genocidal regime.

To achieve the ideal, the CPP has put forth a great many policies, such as the policy toward peasants, the policy toward minority ethnic groups, the policy toward intellectuals, and the clemency policy toward the Cambodians who have, after serving the activities of the other Cambodian side, returned to the national fold.

What the CPP has introduced does not remain a sheet of paper. Whatever the party has already said has broadly and concretely been implemented. This is why during the past 14 years, although the country has been placed between war and peace, development, changes, and progress in the national community have been recorded and can be considered the greatest achievement scored from a mountain of ruins and deterioration of our motherland. What is most significant is that the CPP has agreed to make a host of concessions conducive to the signing of the 23 October 1991 Peace Accord, to which the Khmer Rouge faction abhorred by the Cambodian people is also a signatory. Moreover, the CPP has also implemented the accord with sincerity, strived to exercise patience, and created favorable conditions by closely cooperating with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] to make the peace accord's implementation successful.

Thanks to the goodwill, honesty, justice, and concrete and genuine actions of the CPP, many Cambodian personages living abroad have agreed to return and join the CPP of their own free will one after the other. Lately, three generals and a number of our compatriots within the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party have rallied to our CPP. As always, the CPP has never discriminated against the compatriots who have volunteered to join it on the grounds of their political inclination or their past, providing they are patriotic and sincere about joining hands to rehabilitate and develop our beloved motherland.

Should the CPP win the elections, it will continue to more effectively implement the national reconciliation policy. The CPP wishes to vehemently promise that it will never pursue the retaliatory policy. The CPP needs national forces of the people from all strata to rebuild and develop the country toward progress and prosperity.

Hun Sen: CPP Not To Pursue Retaliatory Policy

BK0405072793 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] At a rally during his election campaign in Siem Reap Province, His Excellency Prime Minister Hun Sen said in the presence of some 60,000 people that the Khmer Rouge is now no longer a Cambodian party that we should deal with. The Khmer Rouge became rebels and bandits after they decided to opt out of the Paris Accord. Recently, they promptly evacuated their office in Phnom Penh in the middle of the night and refused to attend Supreme National Council [SNC] meetings in the city.

In addition, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, proposed that an SNC meeting be held in Beijing on 29 April. But Hun Sen rejected the proposal for three reasons. He said during the process of the Paris Accord's implementation, all warring parties and political parties are required to remain under the roof of the Paris Accord and the law jointly codified by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and the SNC. Now the Khmer Rouge have not only not participated in the execution of the accord and elections but have also sabotaged the polls, shot at UNTAC planes, captured and held UNTAC staff as their hostages, and killed UNTAC staff members. So who is responsible? Only the Khmer Rouge should be held responsible, nobody else.

Hun Sen said that the Khmer Rouge's dropping out of the election process has caused our people concern. The international community, UNTAC, and the State of Cambodia have also expressed concern over the holding of the upcoming elections. However, with the trend toward seeing the achievement of peace and democracy, the election process is moving forward indeed.

Commenting on the attempt to obstruct and sabotage the elections by the Khmer Rouge and the parties which are their allies, Hun Sen stressed that they can never obstruct the election process. He also defined what Cambodia is and explained the Cambodian solution as well as the issue of national reconciliation to the Siem Reap Province people.

Hun Sen went on to strongly criticize the Khmer Rouge faction for its refusal to change its attitude in compliance with the accord. He also condemned the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party for threatening the people even though it has yet to win the elections.

Concerning politically motivated terrorism, Hun Sen said the FUNCINPEC party has instigated it itself, then blamed the State of Cambodia. This can be illustrated by a Cambodian proverb which says: A satiated monkey always smears the leftover rice on a goat's mouth after eating.

Hun Sen pointed out to the people that after winning the elections, the CPP is not going to pursue a retaliatory policy against any party. If the political parties lose the elections, then they will still be able to carry on their political lives under the roof of a new constitution to be adopted by the people.

On the issue of boosting protection for the national heritage in Siem Reap Province, Hun Sen said: Siem Reap Province abounds with temples. During the Pol Pot era, not only the people were victimized but the Angkor Wat temple was also badly destroyed. Now our youth and people are duty-bound to jointly safeguard our national patrimony, preventing it from unscrupulous vandalism. Besides, the felling of trees has also frequently been observed in the area of Angkor Wat, so I call on the local authorities to heighten their vigilance to effectively protect the environment of this tourist region.

Referring to an opinion poll recently conducted in the province, Hun Sen profoundly thanked the local people for their decision to constantly support and vote for the CPP.

Chea Sim Addresses Voters in Chamka Leu 26 Apr

BK0305111793 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Speech by Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party and National Assembly, at the inauguration of a high school in Chamka Leu District of Kompong Cham Province on 26 April—recorded]

[Text] I would like to greet the clergy and compatriots [words indistinct] (?toward whom I and the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] have the most affectionate and respectful sentiments). I would also like to greet (?all grandfathers, grandmothers, ladies, gentlemen, and misses present here). [passage indistinct]

I have the great honor of coming to Chamka Leu District [passage indistinct] have clearly noted the improvement in the living conditions of the people in this locality.

First of all, I [words indistinct] the deepest affectionate sentiments to the clergy [words indistinct]. I am always thinking of our people all over the country, especially those in Kompong Cham Province's Chamka Leu District. Along with this, I would like to convey solicitous enquiries to all of you [passage indistinct]. Moreover, I would like to profoundly thank the clergy and compatriots in this district, particularly the district leaders at all levels for their efforts in the restoration and development of the national community over the past more than 14 years. [passage indistinct] The growth in the district constitutes a tremendously active contribution to the development of our Kompong Cham Province as a whole.

Kompong Cham is Cambodia's biggest province, with a population of over 1 million. Phnom Penh has a population of about 600,000, but Kompong Cham has more than 1 million. The province also abounds with natural resources, such as rubber, and has produced a significant quantity of soy bean which can be sold at a high price and exported. [passage indistinct] As for Buddhism, Islam, and other religions, they have all been revived. [passage indistinct] Now the Buddhist religion has two sects, namely the Thamayut and Mohanikai sects, as in the past. [passage indistinct]

I would like to heartily praised the clergy, compatriots, and leading cadres in this district as well as Kompong Cham Province's leaders at all levels for their utmost endeavor in surmounting all manner of difficulties and obstacles to achieve social gains in all sectors.

As all of you are already aware, great achievements have been scored thanks to the CPP and SOC's [State of Cambodia] implementation of a liberal economic policy and thanks to the active participation of the people. Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to warmly praise rubber plantation workers [passage indistinct] the rubber plantation workers throughout the country, especially those in this district have scored a great many achievements. They have made all kinds of sacrifices and have overcome all manner of obstacles in this region where security [words indistinct] due to (?the destructive) activities against the people and the shelling of their houses and plantations perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge aimed at prolonging the people's suffering. [passage indistinct].

His Excellency Hun Sen has already made several statements is his capacity as the head of the government and vice chairman of our CPP. The statements have been broadcast on television and radio [words indistinct]. All of you understand the statements, in which Hun Sen talked about the people's survival from the Pol Pot genocide. So it is asked whether those surviving should support the party that has conducted a struggle to topple the Pol Pot genocidal regime and that has saved their lives. [passage indistinct] our people have been very pleased with the achievements scored in all fields and with their having democratic freedom and the freedom to worship any religion, including Buddhism and Islam. [passage indistinct]

Should the CPP win elections, what would it do? Most importantly, the CPP will continue what it has done (?over the past more than 14 years) to gradually improve and modernize its works according to a liberal economic policy. This is part of its strategic goal to enable Cambodia to prosper like its neighbors and other developing countries in the world. The party has also adopted a [word indistinct] democratic, and pluralist political system and a free-market policy. [passage indistinct] From the beginning, it has been the CPP only that has struggled to lead a movement and that has made all kinds of sacrifices in order to (?prevent the Pol Pot genocidal regime) [words indistinct]. What is the pain that those surviving have suffered so far? It is a terrible pain that can never be (?forgotten). The pain continues to remain in our heart [words indistinct] because we have lost our spouses, children, parents, and relatives among the over three million innocent people massacred by the polpotists. [passage indistinct] For what and for whom was the slaughter carried out? [passage indistinct] At this point in time, the people worry about the return to power of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. And the second problem is that the Cambodian people are looking forward to having peace. [passage indistinct] (?Other) political parties have always discredited, slandered, and hurled groundless accusations at the CPP; they do not know what justice is.

Although the national community has from scratch developed in all fields over the past more than 14 years, they have never acknowledged that. They have always made all kinds of interpretations about, hurled accusations at, and bad mouthed our CPP. For more than one year since the accord came into existence, we have remained patient. We have not reacted because we want the implementation of a national reconciliation policy and the peace process to proceed (?smoothly). But now we begin to react. We can no longer exhibit self-restraint because those parties, such as the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, Mr. Son Sann's party, and so on, continue to blatantly (?insult), denigrate, and put all the blame on the CPP.

Now I would like to talk to the clergy and compatriots about some political issues. I always wonder and still do not understand why the FUNCINPEC Party needs to form an alliance with the Khmer Rouge. What is the goal of the alliance? In its campaigning, FUNCINPEC has at all times talked about its love for the nation and people. It has claimed that everything it has done is to serve the people. Nevertheless, the party has concluded an alliance with and also carried out activities alongside the Khmer Rouge. There is plenty of evidence and documents to prove the cooperation between the Khmer Rouge troops and the FUNCINPEC forces. There are also a (?host of other documents) brought by some generals, such as Lieutenant Generals (Kan Rat), (Su Kimsun), and (Kim Long), who have politically decided to join our CPP. Later, there will probably be many other generals who will make a political decision to rally to our CPP as well. The clergy and compatriots have probably already seen those generals and heard their interviews concerning the FUNCINPEC Party on television. I wish to ask: Has Prince Ranariddh acknowledged that the Khmer Rouge have massacred more than 3 million innocent people [words indistinct]? Because the Khmer Rouge have killed not only our people but also members of the royal families. [passage indistinct] But why has Prince Ranariddh's FUNCINPEC party colluded, allied itself, and cooperated with the Khmer Rouge while the people are in fear of and worried about the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime? While all uncles and aunties are praying for tranquillity, peace, and the nonreturn of the Khmer Rouge, while the people are in fear, Prince Ranariddh is walking along the Khmer Rouge's path, of which the people are scared. The activities undertaken by FUNCINPEC and Mr. Son Sann's party are aimed at clearing the way for the Khmer Rouge's return to power. [words indistinct], his own brothers and sisters, his (?relatives), and his royal family members were killed by the Khmer Rouge. Here is Prince [name indistinct], who is a witness and who has joined the CPP like Prince Chakkrapong and Princess Botha Tevi because they believe that the way paved by the CPP and the SOC is correct and supported by the entire people. It was that approach that saved the people from the danger of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

I am able to talk a lot more about that [passage indistinct] the Khmer Rouge will follow FUNCINPEC, Prince Ranariddh, and that they will offer all the power to the prince. [passage indistinct] One day, His Royal Highness [Prince Sihanouk] told Prince Ranariddh: Son, you should look a bit at (?the past) and papa's era. After (?the military coup staged by) Lon Nol in 1970 [words indistinct]. What did the Khmer Rouge give to papa? The Khmer Rouge gave [words indistinct] first, when I arrived in Phnom Penh, I was detained in Khemarin Palace, [words indistinct]; second, five of my children and 14 of my grandchildren were killed [passage indistinct] This is what the samdech said. Then the samdech said: (?You) have to form an alliance with the CPP since I also consider that party as my child [words indistinct]. That was why FUNCINPEC allied itself with the CPP by affixing its signature with Hun Sen on 21 November (?1991). However, Prince Ranariddh, while the ink from the pen he used to sign with Hun Sen on the morning was not yet dry, then signed another agreement with the Khmer Rouge representative, Khieu Samphan, at 1700 on the same day.

Also, the samdech often told me: Your Excellency, only your party is capable of preventing the genocidal Pol Pot regime. [passage indistinct] The samdech also clearly stated that he would not stay in Cambodia if the Khmer Rouge were in power. Now FUNCINPEC is following the path [words indistinct] the Khmer Rouge to return to power if our CPP lost in the elections. If the CPP lost the polls, the Khmer Rouge would certainly return to power. [passage indistinct]

(?This morning), Prince Ranariddh held a meeting in the Kompong Cham provincial town [words indistinct]. There were many truckloads of the party members sent in from many areas. [passage indistinct] Hun Sen is always insultingly called one-eyed jack. He deserves compassion because he has been blind in one eye since he was a youngster and not yet married. However, his wife made a praiseworthy decision and has accepted him as her husband. [passage indistinct] Not only Hun Sen is one-eyed but a great many of our compatriots and combatants are also blind or disabled. The insult is aimed at every one. It is very sad that (?they have used immoral language) against the CPP and SOC.

I do not want to talk too long. I only want to bring some issues to the attention of the clergy and compatriots. Some important issues (?were already raised) by Hun Sen in the statements he made in Kandal, Kompomg Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, and Kampot Provinces. Those statements are deeply meaningful and have a historic (significance) for our Cambodian community and the rebirth of the Cambodian people and the religions, including Buddhism, Islam, and other religions. After reviving our people and improving their living conditions, (?the CPP) wants to further prosper the people's livelihood according to the latter's wish.

Taking this opportunity, I would also like to talk about the election campaign. Now Grandpa Chea Sim [words indistinct] come here in person. Who is Grandpa Chea Sim? [passage indistinct] The people can call me whatever they want providing that they love me, the CPP, Heng Samrin, Hun Sen, and the other leaders. Today, we launch an election campaign [word indistinct] and also inaugurate a high school building which constitutes another realization jointly constructed by the CPP, SOC, the Cambodian people, generous persons, and the clergy. [passage indistinct] On behalf of the CPP, I want to receive a ballot from each of our people, and I want the people to vote for the party with the Tevoda [supernatural being] logo. I hope that the clergy and compatriots still remember the Tevoda who saved all of us from the Pol Pot genocide and who has helped us survive so far. You should not forget the Tevoda. (?You will be in danger) if you ignore the Tevoda. [words indistinct] the genocidal Pol Pot regime will return to power. There is a total of 20 political parties that will contest the elections. But the CPP is on the top of the list of the contesting parties [passage indistinct] The people answer: We will never forget the Tevoda; we still remember the Tevoda. So if you still remember the Tevoda, you have to vote for the Tevoda. [passage indistinct] If you vote for the Tevoda party, this means that you vote for yourselves as you also participated in (?toppling the genocidal Pol Pot regime). [words indistinct] and have also taken part in the prevention of the Pol Pot genocidal regime [words indistinct]. Only the CPP has enough forces (?to block) the genocidal regime from returning to power. There is no one but the CPP. You should not place your hopes on FUNCINPEC or Mr. Son Sann's party [passage indistinct] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, when Prince Ranariddh told him that the Khmer Rouge agreed to accompany (?him), said: Son, you should be careful of whether they will accompany you to heaven or to Tuol Sleng penitentiary. This is what the samdech said. [passage indistinct] all his fortune, including all movable and immovable property and assets at home and abroad, will be given to the princess consort. Nothing is left for the distinguished prince.

I wish to urge the clergy and compatriots to make your own judgment about Hun Sen's statements and my explanations. Should you vote for the Tevoda party or [words indistinct]. However, you have the right and freedom to vote for any political party you like. [passage indistinct] Will all of you vote for the CPP? Please lift up your hands. [laughter] Thank you very much. The CPP has garnered a lot of voices here. [passage indistinct] will have a majority of seats in the constituent assembly. But this depends on you, the voters. If you vote as you just lifted your hands, we will certainly get those seats. I would like to profoundly thank all the clergy and compatriots.

Before concluding my speech, I pray that the Triple Jewels, all sacred things, [words indistinct] and Indra lead you toward what is good, correct, and accessible and what can guarantee and protect peace and prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning to power. The CPP represented by the Tevoda pray that the sacred things eternally protect rights, freedom, Buddhism, Islam, other religions, and what we have achieved over the past 14 years. We are determined to do our utmost to further develop what represents the desire of our people and national community.

Now I would like to introduce the candidates in the Kompong Cham constituency. If you vote for the party with the Tevoda logo, this means that you vote for Chairmen Heng Samrin, Hun Sen, and Chea Sim and 120 other candidates for the 120 seats in all constituencies across the country. You do not need to call me Mr. Chea Sim. You can simply call me by my name, Chea Sim. You should vote correctly by marking only the ballot with the Tevoda logo. You can mark the paper with a cross or a plus or minus sign. You should try to mark the paper in the middle so that they will be all accepted. It is correct that you mark only the paper with the CPP emblem.

Now, FUNCINPEC is conducting a misleading propaganda campaign saying that if you hate FUNCINPEC, you should cross out the party. [laughter] In 1992, the party said the people hate the CPP [words indistinct].

In the Kompong Cham constituency, there are Hun Sen [words indistinct]; Mat Ly [words indistinct]; Hun Neng, who is the older brother of Hun Sen; Kiet Chhon, a Phd in economy who used to be a victim of the genocidal Pol Pot regime like our people and who is now a government adviser and chairman of the Foreign Investment Commission working with Prime Minister Hun Sen; Va Huot, who is a candidate in this constituency and whose origins are from (Speu Pratreng); Yos Son, a candidate in this constituency from Phnom Penh, and other candidates. There are a total of 18 candidates in Kompong Cham Province [words indistinct] who should win those seats. It is likely that the people have already made up their minds to vote for all of the candidates or more than half of them. [passage indistinct]

Again, I wish the clergy and compatriots all the best. May all of you enjoy the five blessings of Lord Buddha. Thank you. [applause]

DK Repeats Support for Sihanouk Plan

BK0205080193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 May 93

[Station editorial: "Judging the Plan Against the Cambodian Nation and People of UNTAC and Its Alliances, It Can Be Clearly Seen that the Plan To Set Up a Provisional National Coalition Government Under Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme National Council, Is the Only Approach to Settling the Issue of Peace in Both Cambodia and Southeast Asia"]

[Text] The objective of the Paris 23 October 1991 Accord is to put an end to the Yuon [pejorative term for Vietnamese] war of aggression against Cambodia and restore peace, independence, and national reconciliation to the country. UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] is duty-bound to cooperate with the Supreme National Council [SNC] in implementing the Paris agreement with a view to achieving the goal.

Since the signing of the Paris Accord thus far, UNTAC has executed an implementation completely contrary to the political goal:

1. UNTAC has not verified the withdrawal of the Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia.

2. UNTAC has not allowed the SNC a role to play.

3. UNTAC has not controlled the five ministries—the ministries of national defense, security, finance, foreign affairs, and information—which are the key departments and hold the election cards, by allowing the Yuon aggressors and their puppets to enjoy a total reign.

4. UNTAC has forged laws permitting the Yuon to vote, protecting the Yuon, and threatening the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces [CNRF], who have struggled against the Yuon aggressors for national liberation. UNTAC has left Cambodia's border open for the unchecked influx of the Yuon into the country according to the Hanoi Yuon's strategic scheme to further the war of aggression against Cambodia by pumping in Yuon citizens in order to swallow Cambodia. According to statistics from everywhere, the Yuon entering Cambodia now number more than 2.5 million, including 1.5 million Yuon who have already registered with UNTAC for the elections.

5. UNTAC has organized the polls under the Yuon puppet regime and in a situation where no neutral political environment exists. The Yuon have continued their war of aggression against Cambodia until this

current 15th dry season. The Yuon aggressors have militarily, politically, and economically controlled Cambodia and have supervised state mechanisms in all sectors from Phnom Penh to villages and communes. The cat's-paw agents of the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have permanently contaminated the political environment by instigating insecurity and perpetrating politically motivated crimes and terrorism to kill the Cambodian people.

The aforementioned UNTAC activities are clear evidence that UNTAC and the western powers, as well as Japan, do not want the Paris 23 October 1991 Accord. They have a separate agreement for one party: that is, they want to preserve the puppet regime, keep the Yuon in Cambodia, and force the other two factions to join the Yuon puppets for the purpose of eliminating Democratic Kampuchea [DK], thereby doing away with the Cambodian nation, people, and race forever.

UNTAC and the alliances in and outside UNTAC have acted against the Cambodian nation and people since the beginning. They have used all possible means and measures, resorted to military war, and colluded with the Yuon and puppets in attacking the CNRF from the last 14th dry season to this current 15th dry season. They have also waged political, diplomatic, propaganda,and psychological warfare so as to completely wipe out the resistance forces, thereby further preserving the puppet regime and the Yuon aggressors in Cambodia.

The Cambodian people, the CNRF, international watchers, and most UNTAC staff from the Third World countries have seen through the activities conducted by UNTAC, the western powers, and Japan. They have cleary seen that UNTAC has come to Cambodia not to implement the Paris Accord in order to allow Cambodia to recover peace and independence and achieve national reconciliation, but to execute the strategy of bolstering vested interests, sucking the Cambodian people's blood, munching on the bones of the Cambodian people and nation, destroying them, and selling them to the Yuon aggressors.

The situation over the past 16 or 17 months has clearly shown that UNTAC and its alliances have bogged themselves down, ensnared themselves, and completely pushed themselves to the wall.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, has summed up the situation, saying: The situation in Cambodia is very bad. The country is now moving toward disintegration and disappearance, and after the UNTAC-style elections, Cambodia will face an outburst of war.

In his 1 March statement, the prince put forth a national salvation plan as follows:

1. A provisional national coalition government headed by the prince himself and joined by the four Cambodian factions should be set up; and

2. The provisional government should organize general elections across Cambodia, including the DK-controlled regions.

This is to avoid the partition of Cambodia and allow the Cambodian people to have a genuine national assembly.

The prince's plan, which is correct and in conformity with the spirit and objective of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord and which is aimed at achieving national reconciliation, does not discard or eliminate any party. All the parties should jointly shoulder responsibility for resolving the nation's problems.

The PDK endorses the prince's plan as reaffirmed by Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, chairman and vice chairman of the PDK and SNC members, in their joint 2 March 1993 message to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman.

The Cambodian nation and people at home and abroad also support the prince's plan because they have clearly seen that the plan is based on national reconciliation and genuine national interests. And the current situation has more clearly shown that the prince's plan is the only approach to settling the issue of peace in both Cambodia and Southeast Asia.

Chea Sim Speaks to Kompong Cham, Prey Veng Voters

BK3004034093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and National Assembly of the State of Cambodia [SOC], visited and conducted election campaigns in Kompong Cham and Prey Veng Provinces between 25 and 29 April. During his five-day visit to the two provinces, Chea Sim held a working meeting with Kompong Cham Province's leadership and presided over the inauguration of a high school in Chamka Leu District. He also visited our compatriots at monasteries, such as the monasteries of Nokor Khnong, Nokor Krau, (O Rou), and so on, in remote areas in Ponhea Krek District.

In Prey Veng Province, Chea Sim presided over a ceremony to inaugurate a school building at Reasmei Samakki high school in Peam Ro District and chatted with the people attending the event. At every meeting with our compatriots, he always expressed solicitous enquiries and profoundly considerate sentiments to them and briefed them about some new developments prior to the elections, especially election campaigns currently conducted by various political parties.

He also criticized the parties of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and Son Sann, the Khmer Rouge's allies, for using the name of Samdech Euv [prince father] to carry out deceiving maneuvers to confuse the people during their election campaigns. He always strived to make the people understand the stratagem of the Khmer Rouge's tripartite coalition and recall the brilliant deeds of the CPP. He stressed that only by voting for the CPP can the survival, [word indistinct], and freedom be legitimately guaranteed and can the return of the Pol Pot genocidal regime be permanently prevented.

Heng Samrin Speaks to Ponhea Loe District Voters

BK0105095393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] His Excellency Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, and his wife paid a visit to some 30,000 Buddhist monks, people, Muslim minority ethnic group, teachers, and students rallying at Sovan Meali monastery in Prek Ta Ten commune, Ponhea Loe District, Kandal Province on the morning of 30 April. He was accompanied by H.E. Chea Soth, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee; Mr. Vong Sot, chairman of the People's Committee of Kandal Province; and other CPP officials. H.E. Heng Samrin also presided over a ceremony to inaugurate a school building at the Prek Ta Ten high school.

Heng Samrin sincerely hailed the local monks and people for having strived, with high patriotic spirit, to surmount all manner of obstacles as well as taking part in achieving and developing a great many construction projects, such as roads, bridges, health centers, schools, monasteries, and so on, in their locality. He also reminded the audience of the tragedy cruelly committed by the Khmer Rouge of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal regime in the three years, eight months, and 20 days when they were in power. In their heyday, the Cambodian national community was eliminated. Infrastructure, public utilities, and over 3 million people were systematically destroyed. After the historic 7 January 1979 victory, the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, which was conducting a struggle to topple the genocidal regime, has started to rebuild the country from scratch and developed it in all fields over the past 14 years. The people have enjoyed complete freedom, such as freedom of religion, markets, and money. Everything in our new society has been restored.

Commenting on the implementation of the peace agreement and election campaign, Hun Sen clearly underlined the CPP and the State of Cambodia [SOC] Government's goodwill to seek peace for the Cambodian people. Some factions, he added, such as the Khmer Rouge, have not only refused to implement the agreement but have also created obstacles by further slaughtering the innocent Cambodian people and Vietnamese nationals as well as some military and civilian UNTAC staff members.

Heng Samrin urged the audience to make a clear judgment before casting their ballots to elect a new constituent assembly and to clearly see the true nature and deceiving maneuvers of other factions, including FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] that has colluded with the Khmer Rouge in continuing a war aimed at massacring the people and plunging the Cambodian national community into a new dangerous abyss of genocide. He recalled: Only the CPP, which saved the Cambodian people from the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal danger, has defended, rebuilt, and developed the Cambodian national community over the past more than 14 years. Therefore, the people should vote for the CPP. The latter pledges to prevent at all costs the return of the genocidal regime and to protect the people's property, occupations, and freedom.

Heng Samrin Issues May Day Message, Asks for Votes

BK0305103593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 30 Apr 93

[1 May greetings message to Cambodian workers, employees, cadres, and members of trade unions from Heng Samrin, honarary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party and chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of State—recorded]

[Text] To all beloved workers, employees, cadres, and members of trade unions as well as all working people throughout Cambodia:

The 107th anniversary of the International Labor Day of 1 May takes place at a time when the Paris Peace Accord on Cambodia is being enthusiastically implemented throughout the country, particularly during this stage of the electoral campaign, which is an important step toward the planned election.

On this auspicious occasion, on behalf of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia [SOC] Government and in my own name, I would like to express congratulations and sincere gratitude to all Cambodian working people for making precious contributions to the defense and reconstruction of our beloved Angkorian motherland. You are the ones who have contributed directly to realizing the national achievements in all sectors, thus enabling the CPP and SOC Government to carry out their historic mission over the past 14 years. This mission was to revive everything that was lost or destroyed between 1975 to 1979 and to make it possible for Cambodia to advance toward genuine development, peace, and happiness.

History in the past 14 years has recorded the efforts that you have made through a most difficult time in the process of social rehabilitation and development. While fighting to stop the subversive attacks of the polpotist bandits and prevent the return of their genocidal danger with one hand and working to increase production and fulfilling your tasks of building everything in all fields with the other hand, you have helped to develop every sector of the society from scratch, bringing it to the present state of progress. This constitutes an important cause of historic magnitude and a strong and solid foundation that has guaranteed the relentless development of the national community and promoted the signing of the political solution for peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia.

Also on this occasion, I join with the workers, employees, cadres, and members of trade unions throughout the country in expressing vigorous thanks and congratulations to all working people of all countries in the world who are celebrating the 107th May Day anniversary, especially to the personnel of the UN Transitional Authority for having carried out and continuing to carry out their international duty in our Angkorian land and for closely cooperating with the SOC faction in implementing the Paris Accord with a high sense of impartiality, understanding, sympathy, and affection toward the Cambodian people and a strong desire to see the Cambodian motherland stable and the Cambodian people free from the danger of wars and poverty at a time when the genocidal polpotists and their accomplices are trying to create a complex atmosphere in an attempt to undermine the elections in all forms, espcially through the recent spree of military, terrorist, and subversive harassments.

Beloved Cambodian working people: In the future, like in the past and under all circumstances, the CPP will remain on the side of the Cambodian people, will share weal and woe with them, and will never abandon them. We are the only party that has a policy and sufficient force to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot danger from returning to Cambodia. For this reason, I appeal to all Cambodian workers to use good judgment, think hard, and cast votes for any party that has a strong political commitment to opposing the genocidal regime and has sufficient possibility and capacity to prevent the return of the genocidal regime, in other words, to vote for the CPP with the flower-strewing angel as its logo.

This means that in order to avoid the danger of repeating what happened in the interval between 1975 and 1979, to avoid wars, to bring a lasting peace to Cambodia, you must vote for the CPP. At the same time, you must also work to rally the massive support of the people for the CPP at the upcoming elections. Giving ballots to the CPP means committing to peace; ensuring the existing ownership; and guaranteeing the careers of cadres, employees, and workers. Together we can build an independent, peaceful, free, democratic, neutral, and socially progressive Cambodia.

Moreover, voting for the CPP is giving it a chance to continue playing the role of a core for national reconciliation and for mobilizing the force of national solidarity for the defense and reconstruction of our beloved motherland.

Once again, I extend best wishes to all workers, employees, cadres, and members of trade unions as well as all working people throughout Cambodia on the occasion of this international May Day. May all of you enjoy peace and happiness in your work and lives and may you achieve new successes in determining your own destiny.

Laos

Control, Inspection Cadres Hold Conference

Third Day's Session Reported

BK3004132793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] On 28 April, the 1993 nationwide conference of control and inspection cadres entered its third day. On the afternoon of 27 April, delegates from many provinces took to the rostrum to express their views, pointing out the outcome of the implementation of control and inspection work from many aspects, especially in assessing the implementation of the party's guidelines, policies, and resolutions, and the working system of party committees, administrative organizations, and mass organizations at all levels. The delegates also assessed the outcome of the implementation of actual work in the past year. They noted that the implementation of the party's and government's resolutions and decrees and the party's regulations was not strict enough. Many provinces, districts, villages, ministries, and companies failed to study and firmly grasp the party's resolutions and the government's plans. The transformation of the party's policies and guidelines into detailed plans for localities, provinces, and services was not suitable for the reality. Many party units failed to actively implement the party's regulations. The work performance of party committees and party members was not good, etc.

Nonetheless, on the first and second days of the conference, the chairman of the party Central Committee's Control and Inspection Board described many important aspects of the implementation of control and inspection work. In the past year, the board conducted inspection activities in 15 out of 17 provinces, covering 142 targets. It also provided technical services to 106 other targets, inspected district party committees in 47 districts, and collected data from 4,244 party units. A report presented at the conference noted that by conducting inspections, the board managed to classify party units into the following categories: 287 party units were found to be strong, 17,556 to be fair, and 2,201 to be weak. From its inspection of the qualifications of party members, the board was able to classify the members into the following categories: 8,688 strong comrades, 15,754 mediocre comrades, 22,879 weak comrades, and more than 200 unqualified comrades.

In the past year, the party and government paid special attention to carrying out control and inspection work in an earnest manner in all spheres of work in order to identify any corrupt practices in all state organizations. By carrying out such inspections, acts of corruption, cheating, and embezzlement have been uncovered in certain business enterprises, service organizations, and localities.

Fourth Day's Session Detailed

BK3004144993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Yesterday morning when the 1993 annual nationwide conference of control and inspection cadres entered its fourth day, Bouathong Louangvilai, vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Party and State Control and Inspection Board, presented a document approving the regulation on the organizing of activities by the party control committees at the grass-roots level. The vice chairman said: All party organizations at the grass-roots level are the leading core in our political system. They are the final bodies that organize the implementation of the party's guidelines and policies, the state's laws, and the plans and instructions of the higher and at their own levels. Whether the outcome of such implementation is fruitful or not depends on the quality of the leadership of the party organizations at the grass-roots level. Such an outcome will create a direct impact on the party's leading role. The party inspection committees at the grass-roots level are inseparable from the building and upgrading of the party.

The objectives of the control work are aimed at identifying the party's outstanding and desirable features as well as their negative aspects, mistakes, and limits so that rectification can be made to allow the party's and state's policies and plans to be effectively implemented.

Siosavat Savengsuksa, another vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Party and State Control and Inspection Board, also presented a paper on the regulations regarding the establishment and activities of the ad hoc committee to fight against acts of corruption and the embezzlement of state property. The role of this committee is to suppress all acts of corruption, abuse of laws for vested interests, cheating, and embezzlement of state, collective, and public property and to coordinate with the ad hoc anticorruption committees at the provincial level so that their movements can be uniformly carried out throughout the country in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the party Central Committee. The fight against corruption is aimed at safeguarding the party's guidelines and policies and the state's regulations and laws so as to see to it that they are strictly and effectively implemented, thereby genuinely benefiting society. At the same time, it is also aimed at protecting state, collective, and public property for use in building and developing the country; expanding the economy, national defense, and public security maintenance work; and upgrading our education, social, and cultural work.

At the conference, delegates from all provinces throughout the country also studied and expressed their views on the aforementioned documents, which spell out the duties and rights of the party control committees at the grass-roots level, the organizational structure, and the standard and working methods of the party control committees at the grass-roots level.

In addition, the delegates also expressed views on the essense of the policy in fighting against corruption, measures in halting corruption, the duties and rights of organizations, the scope of such rights, and the direction of the implementation of the aforementioned policy at the grass-roots level. All this is also aimed at further enhancing and fruitfully implementing the essence of the aforementioned regulations.

Conference Concludes

BK0105100993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] The 1993 nationwide conference of control cadres was concluded in Vientiane yesterday morning after the participating delegates heard an address answering their questions made by Maichanta Sengmani, chairman of the party Central Committee's Party-State Control and Inspection Board.

In his address, Maichantan Sengmani stressed the direction and fundamental tasks to be fulfilled by the Party-State Control and Inspection Board and the National Assembly in implementing organizational principles and carrying out activities. The scope in the duties and rights are fundamentally different and must be translated into a detailed guideline for the party to implement its control policy, especially for conducting the inspection of the implementation of the socioeconomic development plan and the quality of management work. Maichantan Sengmani also touched on the issue of conducting inspections aimed at curbing and preventing corruption in accordance with the party's policy and the state's laws so as to ensure that all party policies and state laws, decrees, and regulations be strictly and effectively enforced.

The 1993 nationwide conference of control and inspection cadres has produced a brilliant outcome after five days in session. Bouathong Louangvilai, who was in charge of the conference, noted that the meeting reached unanimity in its assessment of the control and inspection work in the past one year as presented by the chairman of the Party-State Control and Inspection Board. The conference agreed that control and inspection committees at the grass-roots level must be set up to carry out inspection work on a routine basis and that the implementation of the party Central Committee's policy to curb corruption must be vigorously carried out by placing an emphasis on providing preventive training and education [to state employees and cadres] as a primary goal.

Persons found to be involved in any acts of corruption and embezzlement must be dealt with strictly. To achieve this goal, attention must be paid to more vigorously, firmly, and effectively upgrading party control organizations at various levels—from the central down to the grass-roots.

Editorial Celebrates International Workers Day

BK0205111393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 May 93

[Editorial: "May Day Spirit in the Cause of Restructuring"]

[Text] Today is International Workers Day, which has been observed worldwide by working people and workers every year. Multiethnic Lao working people and workers are extremely pleased to join working people and workers all over the world in celebrating the occasion once again.

The historic day was initiated in Chicago, the United States, 107 years ago, when about 180,000 working people staged a mass rally to demand the right to work eight hours a day, pay raises, and other rights. Later, working people and workers the world over enjoyed rights similar to those demanded.

In Laos, through the past period of struggles for national liberation and the present period of defending and building the country, Lao working people and workers have together strictly followed the principles of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, which is representative of all the Lao working people and workers. Because of this, victories have gradually been attained in all aspects in every period of struggling for, defending, and building the country.

In particular, since the issuance of the fifth party resolution on the implementation of the obligations regarding national development, especially the new economic concept, multiethnic Lao working people and workers have to a large extent given even greater support to the cause. Subsequently, this has gradually given an impetus to the people to fulfill the tasks of production and restructuring. In 1992, the total value of domestic products increased by 7 percent over that of 1991. Out of this, agricultural and forestry products increased by 8.3 percent, industrial products 7.5 percent, and services 3.9 percent. In the average [words indistinct] increased by 10 percent. Simultaneously, other sectors have also shared benefits from such achievements.

These victories are initial successes of the Lao working people and workers on the path of protecting and developing the country. From now to the year 2000, the tasks of our working people and workers remain tremendous. We must relentlessly put in our utmost efforts to upgrade the performance of our tasks. We must continuously grasp and maintain the May Day spirit of determination and struggle by unitedly and energetically working in a creative and disciplined manner. We must together strive to implement the national socioeconomic development plan for the period from now to 2000 laid out by the party and state in order to attain the targets on schedule or even ahead of schedule. All this is for the sake of the country's progress and prosperity, and the well-being and peace of all the levels of the Lao working people and the workers of all ethnic groups.

Long live the May Day spirit!

Philippines

Libyan Official Supports Peace Moves, Departs

HK0405053093 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 3 May 93

[From "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Libyan Foreign Minister [title as heard] 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir flew home today. Al-Muntasir visited the Philippines to urge President Fidel Ramos to withhold support for sanctions imposed by the United Nations on Libya.

Libya is being penalized because it has refused to surrender two suspects in the bombing of a passenger plane in 1988. A total of 270 people were killed on that Pan Am flight.

President Ramos did not give any promises on this issue. In his news conference today, he ordered Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo to consult U.N. officials on this issue.

Meanwhile, the Libyan foreign minister stressed that Libya was supporting the current peace negotiations between the Ramos government and the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF].

Minister al-Muntasir said the MNLF has a big role in the implementation of the Tripoli agreement and Libya still hopes that it will be implemented.

Under the Tripoli agreement, 15 Mindanao provinces will be given autonomy.

[Begin al-Muntasir recording in English] We have given all assistance possible to the Philippines to solve this problem within the sovereignty of the Philippines. [end recording]

Claims Support on Lockerbie Suspects

HK0405054493 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] The Philippines will support Libya's decision to retain custody of two Libyan agents sought for interrogation by the United States. This was the statement issued by Libyan Foreign Minister, 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir, after his meeting with President Ramos at Malacanang [Ramos' Manila residence]. Al-Mutasir said that the Philippines will give its full support against a

U.S. decision to serve heavy punishment on Libya for its refusal to hand over two of its agents to the United States for questioning.

The two Libyan agents were reportedly involved in the bombing of a Pan Am jet in Lockerbie, Scotland in 1988.

Al-Muntasir added that President Ramos favors the interrogation of the two Libyan agents in a neutral place and not in any foreign country like the United States, Britain, or France.

Ramos Defends Cooperation With PRC on Arms

HK0405050293 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 4 May 93 p 3

[Report Marichu A. Villanueva]

[Text] President Ramos yesterday asserted that there is nothing "mysterious" nor was it illegal on the arms co-production venture agreement the Philippine government entered into with the People's Republic of China (PROC) which was reached during his state visit there last week.

The President stressed this to strongly take exception to the charges of Sen. Blas Ople that the arms deal concluded by the Ramos administration with the PROC may be viewed by the United STates as a violation of the Philippine-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT).

In his first press conference at the Palace since he arrived back to Manila last Saturday after completing the six-day state visit to China, the President also clarified that contrary to fears raised by Ople there was no agreement signed about the resolution of the conflicting claims on Spratlys island in South China Seas between the Philippines and PROC.

The President explained that PROC president Jiang Zemen merely "confirmed" the PROC position that it will abide by the Manila Declaration of 1991 where country claimants of Spratlys agreed to set aside in the meantime the sovereignty issue and instead pursue a joint and peaceful development of the mineral-rich group of islands.

Aside from PROC and the Philippines, the other countries claiming ownership of the South China Seas Islands include Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam.

On the arms co-production agreement, the President pointed out that this has been a government policy since he was still the Secretary of Department of National Defense (DND) under the so-called "self-reliance" defense program where the DND do not buy outright end items of arms equipment.

"This is an economic initiative, we have been doing this in the Defense Department," the President pointed out.

"This means, if possible, we partially pay for the bill by barter or counter trade," he explained.

Under the co-production or counter-trade deal, he said the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) can pay for the military hardware it will purchase from China with such goods as high-fashion shoes.

"This means cheaper prices and job generation in the Philippines," he said.

"That's all there is to it, nothing mysterious," the President riposted.

Ople raised there fears based on still unannounced agreement forged by the state visit of President Ramos of the $3 million credit being extended by PROC to the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] for its military modernization.

Mr Ramos said similar counter-trades have been made in the past by the AFP during his stint as Chief of Staff for the construction of fast patrol crafts.

Ramos Orders Survey of Spratlys' Marine Resources

HK0405054093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 4 May 93 p 12

[Report by Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] Barely a day since arriving from China, President Fidel Ramos gave the go-ahead last Sunday for a survey of marine resources in the disputed Spratly Islands.

The survey, initially planned for April, was put off in deference to Chinese sensibilities. "We didn't want to risk ruffling any feathers before the state visit," a ranking Foreign Affairs official remarked.

The RPS Explorer, a research vessel owned by the Bureau of Mines but operated by a Philippine Navy crew, lay at anchor in the Hundred Islands last Sunday. Dr Perry Alino, who will be heading the scientific team on the two-week survey, received last-minute instructions from the President. (Mr Ramos was in the area to give momentum to a clean-up drive and environmental protection campaign for Lingayen Bay.)

Dr. Alino told BUSINESS WORLD that the survey would only "deal with the marine aquatic environment, ...tides, temperature changes, water samples, species identification and the like."

"We're not going to be doing any geological-type exploration," he said. Philippine officials are markedly secretive about the results of previous surveys and core-sampling activities. They believe that an indication of substantial oil deposits off Philippine-held islands could tempt aggressive moves on the part of other claimants.

Data gleaned from the survey will be reduced to "synoptic reports" for submission to the Spratlys Working Group on Marine Scientific Exchanges to be hosted by the Philippines from May 31 to June 2, Dr Alino said.

Military Accuses MNLF of Bombing Iligan Electric Tower

HK0105061093 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] The military has accused Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] rebels of the bombing of the National Power Corporation [Napocor] tower in Iligan City that resulted in a widespread power failure in several Mindanao provinces.

The Civil Relations Office in the province said that several MNLF members were sighted in the area a few days before the bombing occurred.

Meanwhile, Napocor has vowed to restore 85 percent of power supply to the affected areas,including Bukidnon, Agusan Provinces, Surigao Provinces, Cotabato Provinces, Davao Provinces, Sultan Kudarat, and Maguindanao. These places experienced brownouts for six to 17 hours.

House Speaker Proposes The Hague for Peace Talks

HK3004053293 Quezon City MALAYA in English 30 Apr 93 pp 1, 11

[Report by Chit Estella]

[Text] Speaker Jose de Venecia proposed to communist leaders Tuesday holding the second round of exploratory talks in The Hague, Netherlands, Luis Jalandoni, vice chairman of the National Democratic Front [NDF] said yesterday.

Jalandoni confirmed De Venecia met with him and Jose Ma. Sison, founding chairman of the communist party, and his wife, Juliet de Lima-Sison.

Aside from The Hague, De Venecia also mentioned Hong Kong as a possible venue. But in suggesting the Dutch capital, the Speaker virtually supported the proposal of the NDF and contradicted the National Unification Commission [NUC].

NUC chief Haydee Yorac has insisted the second round of talks be held in Southeast Asia, citing travel and lodging costs.

No agreement was reached between De Venecia and the NDF leaders since their meeting was informal and unofficial. But Jalandoni said they are attaching importance to their conversation with the Speaker since "alam ng lahat na malapit siya (De Venecia) sa Pangulo" [everyone knows that he (De Venecia) is close to the President].

Jalandoni added De Venecia was non-committal but promised to work towards the continuation of exploratory discussions. Both sides agreed to keep in touch.

Jalandoni also said they have also been meeting with a representative of the NUC. He did not identify the NUC emissary but said the NDF has agreed to drop the words "mediator" or "third party" to describe a facilitator which they would like to be present in formal talks with government.

He said that instead the NDF would be calling the facilitators "good offices" whose roles would be limited to providing the site and security, opening the ceremonies, and witnessing the signing of any agreement to be reached by both parties.

This role, according to Jalandoni, can be performed by Switzerland, Japan, or the European Parliament. He said the Swiss government offered the use of its offices during the talks in May 1991 while the European Parliament offered a conference room in its office in Brussels.

Japan is being considered because of the presence of political parties there which are supportive of the peace efforts.

Jalandoni also said Yorac's statement that the NUC was ready to talk with factions of the NDF was "not acceptable."

Ramos Backs Speaker's Talks

HK0405044693 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 4 May 93 p 3

[Report by Gerry Jacinto]

[Text] President Ramos yesterday welcomed efforts by House Speaker Jose de Venecia to contribute to the peace process by recently holding talks with exiled Philippine Communist Party leaders in the Netherlands.

De Venecia had been criticized by Sen. Blas Ople and National Unification Commission [NUC] Chairman Haydee Yorac for directly negotiating with leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines despite the exclusive jurisdiction given to the NUC over holding talks with rebels.

"In the case of Chairman Haydee Yorac indeed she is the one assigned or the one responsible for developing and enhancing and finally packaging the peace process. "But I welcome the contributions of Speaker de Venecia who also has some special expertise in this regard," the President said during his weekly news conference.

The President said that De Venecia was the former classmate of Luis Jalandoni, who is the number two man in the Jose Ma. Sison camp."

The President emphasized that he continues to remain confident of Yorac's capabilities to speed up the peace process but he said that the government should also mobilize "as much help as it can get in order to have the peace process fully developed and eventually to be implemented to the best interest of the country.'

The Chief Executive said he does not need to authorize De Venecia to talk with communist party leaders since the Speaker's main purpose in going to Europe was to attend a conference and at the same time seek support from European countries for the Philippine Aid Program. "I don't have to authorize the Speaker in the sense that I have to approve his travel itinerary," he said.

Ople had said that De Venecia's "amateur diplomacy" may jeopardize the peace process. De Venecia had talked with National Democratic Front officials led by Jose Ma. Sison in a bid to convince communist rebeles to hold peace talks with the government.

De Veneca vowed to pursue his peace initiatives saying he has done nothing wrong in talking with those who wanted to talk peace with those who wanted to talk peace with the government.

"Kohit sa demonya any makikipag-usap ako dahil ang mahalaga ay tulungan natin ang ating bansa," [I will talk even to the devil since what is important is for us to help our country] said De Venecia, who was reacting to some pronouncements made by National Unification Commission (NUC) chair-person Haydee Yorac that he (De Venecia) has no authorization to make such a move.

De Venecla defended his trip to the Netherlands last week to talk with the leaders of the National Democratic Front (NDF) led by alleged Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) chairman Jose Ma. Sison saying he did it in his "personal capacity" as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Although he lauded the peace efforts of Yorac, De Venecia, however, said there are a lot of things which should be done for the government to succeed in its peace initiatives. "Everyone in the government must help each other in this endeavor."

"We should help each other. Tama na ang crab mentality [It is enough to have crab mentality]," he said.

Two NUC members, Reps. Jose Yap (NUCD [National Union of Christian Democrats]-Tarlac) and Eduardo Ermita (NUCD-Batangas) defended De Venecia's peace initiatives.

"He (De Venecia) has all the right to do it being the head of the bigger chamber," Yap, chairman of the House committee on national defense, said.

Yap said the meeting between De Venecia and the NDF leaders is informal.

Thailand

IPR Talks With U.S. Turn to Pharmaceutical Patents

BK0405023793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 May 93 p 17

[By Peter Maitri Ungphakon, Somphon Thapanachai]

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Pimchaichon has linked pharmaceutical patents with the struggle for democracy in Thailand in an attempt to soften US demands on intellectual property, one of his aides said yesterday.

According to the aide, Mr Uthai told US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor that pharmaceutical patents involve a large number of people in Thailand, not least doctors, nurses and students who risked their lives in last year's May uprising.

He put the argument at a meeting with Mr Kantor that lasted more than an hour in Washington on Saturday morning, the aide said, speaking in Washington in a telephone interview. On Friday, Mr Uthai met US Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown.

According to the aide, Mr Kantor was receptive and expressed admiration for Mr Uthai's political record as a fighter for democracy.

"He listened," the aide said.

The meeting between Mr Uthai and Mr Kantor took place the day after the US Trade Representative announced he was keeping Thailand on the "priority foreign country" list of worst offenders in intellectual property rights violations.

Mr Uthai is quoted as expressing pleasure with the announcement. He said it shows that the Government's action against copyright pirates has persuaded the Americans not to impose sanctions against Thai exports.

The meeting also took place as trade talks between Thai and US officials were reported to be placing renewed emphasis on pharmaceutical patents. With the crackdown on piracy under way in Thailand, the main question with copyrights as far as the American are concerned is whether the crackdown will be sustained. However, a US official said yesterday that a large part of the talks, which began in Washington last Wednesday, still concerns copyrights.

On pharmaceuticals, the American demands include seven-year backdated patent protection for drugs in the "pipeline"—those already invented but not available in Thailand and therefore not covered when the new Thai patent law took effect last September.

The Americans also want an end to the special treatment given to pharmaceuticals in the law, particularly "compulsory licensing" powers designed to avoid abuse of patent monopoly.

Mr Uthai is said to have told Mr Kantor that because Thailand is governed as a parliamentary democracy, legislative changes will take time. But any changes to administrative practices that might meet these demands could be introduced more quickly.

Reports reaching Bangkok of the meeting and the officials' negotiations that have been taking place since

Wednesday do not mention Mr Uthai or anyone else on the Thai side rejecting any of the US demands as being unacceptable.

But Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, repeating his comments at the weekend, said Thailand is only willing to make changes that would conform with international practices. US demands exceeding standard international practices would be purely an internal Thai affair, he told reporters after yesterday's meeting of the Council of Social Affairs Ministers.

Mr Chuan did not say which demands conform with international practices.

If the Uruguay Round of world trade talks had been concluded, Thailand would like to abide by the provisions of the round's agreement on intellectual property rights, Mr Chuan said. But since the round remains deadlocked Thailand will have to consider each issue on its own merit.

Thai and US sources say Mr Uthai's meeting with Mr Kantor on Saturday was friendly. Mr Kantor is said to have commended the Thai Government for its crackdown on copyright piracy, although Mr Kantor and his officials are known to be worried that the crackdown might not be sustained.

Mr Uthai's aide was optimistic that the remaining issues between Thailand and the United States could be resolved in the last two days of talks scheduled for yesterday and today Washington time.

"The negotiations have been very fruitful," he said.

The US official described the talks as "amicable" and "making progress".

Mr Uthai has not agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding or any other kind of document. Mr Kantor will give Mr Uthai a note outlining the US understanding of commitments made during the talks, according to Mr Uthai's aide, but this will not be legally binding on Thailand.

Officially, the United States wants negotiations completed by May 30. Mr Kantor is scheduled to make a formal announcement of actions against Thailand on July 31, but if talks break down, retaliation could be imposed immediately, sources say.

Mr Uthai is now scheduled to leave Washington on Wednesday. He met US Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown on Friday afternoon and has a number of other appointments lined up this week.

Mr Uthai and Mr Brown are said to have discussed economic cooperation and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group. Mr Uthai invited Mr Brown to visit Thailand before the APEC ministerial meeting this autumn. Mr Brown is said to have accepted the invitation.

Article Views Talks, 'Complex' Issues

BK0405030493 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 May 93 p 24

[By Peter Maitri Ungphakon]

[Text] The focus of negotiations has shifted away from copyrights to pharmaceutical patents, according to Thai sources who have been following the progress of last week's Thai-US talks in Washington.

US sources say there has still been a lot to talk about on copyrights, but they agree that pharmaceuticals, recently pushed into the background because of the emphasis on copyright law enforcement, have come to the fore again.

As a result, the issues that Thai Commerce Minister Uthai Pimchaichon and his officials have to respond to have become much more complex. Moreover, the talks have entered a territory in which the Clinton Administration could find itself charged with double standards: a willingness to adopt the drug companies' arguments on pharmaceutical patents abroad, and a reluctance to do the same at home.

The main reason for the change in the talks' emphasis is Bangkok's crackdown on copyright piracy over the past month or so. The crackdown leaves little to be negotiated on copyright unless the Thai Government is willing to sign a document committing itself to a timetable that spells out how much piracy is to be destroyed in how much time.

Some copyright issues do remain, however. One is computer software. Washington wants Thai copyright law to be amended so that it states specifically that computer software is covered.

The Americans remain dissatisfied with the current ambiguity of the Thai law. The Juridical Council, the Government's committee of legal advisers, says the law does cover copyright, but the interpretation still needs confirmation from the courts. Although no case has been brought to court to test the interpretation, targets of the recent anti-piracy raids have included software copiers.

Without a signed document stating the Thai Government's anti-piracy commitments, the United States says it will continue to monitor the results of the crackdown to see whether efforts are sustained. One of its objectives is to see whether major pirates are forced either to go out of business or to deal in legitimate copyrighted products.

US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor's schedule for monitoring the results of the crackdown along with other moves on intellectual property rights appears to be until July 31.

While that monitoring continues, Mr Kantor seems to want negotiations to be completed within 30 days. As an official of the US Embassy in Bangkok put it on Saturday: Thailand has been given until May 30 to complete negotiations and until July 31 to show results.

There has been some confusion about the timetable. In his announcement on Friday [30 April] that Thailand was being kept on the "Priority Foreign Country" list of nations threatened with immediate reprisals, Mr Kantor did not mention any three-month period for Thailand. According to a spokeswoman of the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR), he did not mention it in his press conference on Friday either.

Normally, countries newly placed on the worst-offender list are given 30 days to negotiate. The USTR then monitors progress for another nine months before making a ruling, after which sanctions could be imposed at any time. That is what is happening to Brazil this year.

But Thailand has been on the Priority Foreign Country list since 1991. Mr Kantor's predecessor, Carla Hills, postponed action against Thailand several times while waiting to see the passage of the new patent law, and because of political problems in Thailand arising from the 1991 coup d'etat and the May 1992 uprising.

Therefore, Mr Kantor did not need to give Thailand any grace period in last week's announcement. But, according to a US Embassy official in Bangkok, Friday's announcement together with recent statements from Mr Kantor mean that Thailand has been given until May 30 to complete negotiations and until July 31 to satisfy, he US Government that American demands are being met.

One possible interpretation of the letter Mr Kantor wrote to Thai Commerce Minister Uthai Pimchaichon on April 26 is that punitive import duties could still be slapped on to selected Thai exports at once if talks between now and May 30 break down.

In the letter, Mr Kantor said he was willing to postpone a decision on action against Thailand until July 3 if four key issues were resolved "immediately".

The question is what he meant by "immediately". Since he did not announce sanctions against Thai exports on Friday, the best interpretation seems to be: "within the current round of negotiations, and probably before May 30".

The subjects that the Americans want to discuss have already been spelt out. They are the four issues that Mr Kantor listed in his letter to the Thai ambassador in Washington just over a week ago:

—Credible results in the crackdown against violators of Thai copyright law;

—Amendments to Thai copyright patent and possibly trademark law to conform with "international standards". The Americans say they are referring to the draft agreement on intellectual property rights of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT);

—Alterations to the way Thai patent law attempts to avoid abuse of monopoly power for pharmaceuticals, measures known as "compulsory licensing"; and

—Backdated patent protection for "pipeline" drugs already invented but not available on the Thai market before the new Thai law came into effect last year. According to Thai sources, the Americans want a seven-year backdating period.

The new focus on pharmaceutical patent law in the latest round of talks that began in Washington last Wednesday, raises issues that are more complex than the crackdown on copyright piracy.

Few could defend law-breaking with much conviction, although whether the United States was losing enough trade to warrant retaliation could be debated. Now the question is whether Thai law is adequate, and this is a completely different ballgame.

When the new Thai patent law was introduced last year, it extended protection to pharmaceuticals. The then commerce minister, Amaret Sila-on, and his officials argued that the law would help Thailand avoid US trade sanctions because its provisions conformed with the draft Uruguay Round agreement.

It was an argument they had to make forcefully because they were confronted by bitter opposition from activists who said the new law would make drugs too expensive and would harm the country's public health interests. One of the more vocal critics was Aphisit Wetchachiwa who has since become a Democrat MP and the Government spokesman.

Mr Uthai, Amaret's successor, and his officials now find themselves confronted by a USTR who insists that the new Thai patent law does not conform with the Uruguay Round draft, and that the discrepancy is sufficient to warrant the threat of sanctions.

"We thought we'd already raised the white flag of surrender," public health activist Samli Chaidi of Chulalongkon University's Pharmaceutical Science Faculty complained last week.

Pipeline protection—backdated patenting of drugs already invented but not available in Thailand last year—and compulsory licensing are the central issues.

Particularly complicated is compulsory licensing; the underlying philosophy is straightforward, however. Under the new law, if the Government finds that a drug company is overcharging or refusing to supply its patented product, the Government can force it to license other companies to produce the drug at a nominal fee.

American trade officials have raised objections to this on four grounds.

—Some dislike compulsory licensing in principle, although they are willing to accept a weaker version of compulsory licensing with few teeth if Thailand is to escape reprisals. One of the problems is the need for drug companies to supply production and cost data if the Government is to judge whether profit margins are reasonable or not—these are trade secrets, the drug multinationals say.

—They object to the discrimination. Compulsory licensing applies only to pharmaceuticals because Thai health officials persuaded their commerce counterparts that medicines need to be watched particularly carefully in the interests of public health. The draft Uruguay Agreement on intellectual property rights says: "patents shall be available and patent rights enjoyable without discrimination as to the place of invention, the field of technology and whether products are imported or locally produced".

—They are alarmed by a provision of the law that allows the Government to exercise compulsory licensing powers to force patent-holders to produce locally. In other words, if the drug company only imports its patented product, the Government could force it to license a local producer.

The rationale behind this provision is the argument that local production increases the security of supply which could be crucial during a public health crisis—although there is also a debate about whether local production does in fact ensure a secure supply.

—And US trade officials object to the composition of the committee administering pharmaceutical patents, arguing that it is weighted in favour of Thai companies that manufacture copies. This raises two questions: the objectivity of the committee, and the possibility that the multinationals' competitors could gain access to their trade secrets.

But no matter how righteous US diplomats and trade officials sound when they argue that their case is the only legitimate one, they cannot escape the fact that even within the United States the USTR's position is being challenged.

The internal US debate is intensifying because of the US Democrats' greater tendency than the Republicans to be more concerned about health issues at home and at the same time to be more protectionist at American borders.

An article by Julie Kosterlitz in the February 13, 1993 issue of the National Journal is a comprehensive account of both sides of the argument. She says US trade and health-care policies are heading in different directions "because the players in both arenas have proceeded largely in ignorance of one another and have come at the issues from completely different perspectives".

The divergence is summed up in the article by a quote from Stephen Schondelmeyer, professor of pharmaceutical economics at the University of Minnesota: "We have a trade set of groupies and a domestic-health set of groupies and they've never intertwined." Mr Schondelmeyer says US patent law is outdated.

The debate in the United States concerns both GATT and the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA]. The main complaints are that patent law and other features of the American system have allowed drug companies the freedom to charge unjustifiably high prices, and that US governments have been wrong to try to impose the approach of American patent law on Canada and Mexico under NAFTA and on GATT members in the Uruguay Round.

The justification for the kind of patent protection enacted in US law, and for the high prices of drugs, is the high cost of research and development. The industry argues that patent protection and greater profitability should accelerate the invention of new drugs for AIDS, cancer and other diseases.

Ms Kosterlitz reports: "Critics contend, though, that American consumers have been taken to the cleaners for years. The industry overstates both its R&D investments and the amount of true innovation it gets for the buck the critics say, to justify high prices and profits. And high prices make it tough for Americans to get the drugs they need."

American critics express alarm at the US Government's success in forcing the Canadian Government to dismantle its compulsory licensing provisions, a move that critics say is designed to prevent other countries—such as Thailand—from also applying compulsory licensing.

"That's not an idle concern," Ms Kosterlitz writes. "Even as US trade officials and the pharmaceutical industry are realising their long-time goal of having American-style patent protections adopted around the world, some voices at home are questioning the fairness of the American system."

Some of those voices come from influential mouths in Congress.

"Once again the United States is behind the rest of the world in providing affordable health care to our people. Canada has found ways to control prescription drug prices. So have most other countries. It is time for the United States to get on the bandwagon," Democrat representative for California Henry Waxman is quoted as sayng.

Mr Waxman's view gives "international standards", the phrase Mr Kantor used in a recent letter to the Thai government, a completely different interpretation. He is arguing that it is the United States, not the Americans' trade partners, that is not following international standards.

And Democrat senator for Arkansas David Pryor is quoted as saying at a press conference last Autumn: "Congress did not create patents to encourage price gouging, especially on products as vital as medications."

While USTR Kantor pursues the pharmaceutical industry's line in trade policy, President Bill Clinton has already shown that he is listening to politicians such as Mr Pryor and Mr Waxman in matters concerning Americans' health care.

Mr Clinton wants to limit US domestic drug price increases to about the rate of inflation. Some US companies have responded with a proposal to voluntarily keep their price increases within a formula also based on the rate of inflation.

Sen Pryor has linked this to patent protection. In February he mentioned the possibility of reducing patent protections for companies that raise drug prices faster than the rate of inflation.

Although administratively different, Mr Pryor's proposal is at its heart remarkably close to compulsory licensing, the provision of Thai patent law that Democrat USTR Kantor finds so objectionable. Both ideas involve withdrawing patent protection at least partially, if drug companies are found to be abusing monopoly rights by over-charging.

Politicians Pryor and Waxman are not members of the Clinton administration, but they are influential. So if Thai officials do their homework and cultivate the right friends, the 30 days for negotiations could prove interesting.

On the other hand, Mr Uthai could argue that the unilateral US threat of reprisals against its trading partners has nothing to do with consistency of policy but of economic might. Thailand has no choice but to comply with US wishes in order to be sure of its largest export market, Mr Uthai could argue.

Whether Thai public opinion would agree with him remains to be seen.

Rice Prices Continue To Fall on Export Market

BK0405014093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 May 93 p B1

[Text] For the first time ever the international market price of Thai rice has dropped below Vietnam's, according to Thai exporters. As a result, Thai exporters are expected to face stiff competition from their opposite numbers in Vietnam if, as expected, Vietnam cuts prices in order to compete with Thai rice.

A Thai exporter, who asked not to be named, said the price of a tonne of high-quality Thai rice was US$193 compared to US$200 for the Vietnamese equivalent.

US exporters are selling the same quality rice at US$253 per tonne and Pakistani exporters at US$202.

Meanwhile, the committee charged with accelerating rice export levels yesterday agreed to send ministerial level officials to Russia, to urge its government to speed up payment of the next installment owed for the US$63 million of Thai rice it bought two years ago.

Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan, chairman of the committee, said after the meeting that the Thai ambassador in Moscow recently informed the committee that the Russian government has assigned the Russian deputy finance minister to complete the payment. But little progress has been seen to be made by the Russian side.

Thai exporters are now selling 100 per cent rice at US$193 per tonne compared with US$288 last year, and broken rice at US$140 per tonne when last year's price was US$181 per tonne.

In addition, 35 per cent rice is now fetching US$152 per tonne compared to last year's US$219, and 100 per cent parboiled rice costs US$197 per tonne compared to US$267 12 months ago.

The exporter warned that the situation might prompt Vietnamese exporters to further cut their prices to enable their output to survive on the international market. Its emerging economy is in dire need of US dollars.

An international rice researcher said that as the world price continues to drop Thai exporters are expected to sell their rice at US$15 less—for most grades—from this week in the hope of stimulating fresh demand. If they do, it will further deplete the price of paddy rice. Milled-rice prices would also decline but at a slower pace than the paddy's, the researcher added.

However, Thai fragrant rice is still experiencing strong demand abroad. Thai exporters are now selling the rice at US$375 per tonne, a small increase on last year's US$365 per tonne.

Experts said that the Thai government is unlikely to do much to improve the situation at this stage, because the existing government rice stock level is already high.

Global demand for rice this year is about one million tonnes less than last year's. However, total global rice output increased by three million tonnes in the year, from 352 million tonnes to 355 million tonnes.

Central Bank Confident of 7.8 Percent Growth

BK0205071293 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 93 p 15

[Text] The Bank of Thailand yesterday confirmed its prediction that the economy will grow by 7.8 percent this year.

Assistant Governor Chaiyawat Wibunsawat said exports in the first quarter this year grew by only 12 percent, which was below the adjusted whole-year target of 17.9

. Threats exist to the country's exports and there is an economic slowdown in major industrialised countries, but there is no clear indication that the Thai economy will grow lower than forecast.

"The growth rate is not calculated by exports alone. There are many other indicators in the formula, such as the industrial production index, investment by the private sector, imports growth, domestic credit extensions and public spending," he said.

He said the trends showed that these factors have already bottomed out and are at turning points on the path to recovery.

However, Dr Chaiyawat said it is still too early to predict the speed of the recovery.

"So far, the Bank of Thailand confirms its prediction of 7.8 percent growth, but if any central bank official comments on the growth rate, it will be his personal opinion, not that of the central bank," he said.

It was reported earlier that some top central bank officials were concerned that lower exports would result in only 7 percent economic growth this year.

Although confirming the 7.8 percent growth rate, Dr Chaiyawat expressed concern that economic expansion in the first quarter was stimulated by domestic consumption.

"Ideally, growth should be stimulated by exports. Consumption-led expansion could have adverse impacts such as a higher trade deficit, inflation and on the current account," he said.

If exports grow lower than forecast and the economic growth rate reaches the projection, inflation and the current account deficit might be higher than projected, Dr Chaiyawat said.

Meanwhile, Phandhit Nithawon, deputy director of the Economic Research Department at the central bank, said all parties concerned should cooperate in maintaining the momentum of exports growth to ensure that the increase over the rest of the year is not lower than 12 percent recorded in the first quarter.

The Government is implementing measures to boost exports, while industrialists are also trying to sell more products abroad.

State spending will play a significant role in enhancing economic growth. Its impact will be felt soon because the Government is starting to spend now that the budget has been approved, he said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Reports 'Successful' Saudi Visit

BK0105151793 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan reported on his official visit to Saudi Arabia and Egypt over the past 10 days. He said that his visit to Saudi Arabia was successful. He was accorded a very warm welcome from all members of the Saudi Arabian royal family. Saudi Arabia expressed great satisfaction over Thailand's efforts in the investigations of the three cases related to Saudi Arabia.

[Begin Surin recording] I did not have a chance to have an audience with him. Anyway, to sum up, as for Saudi Arabia, they are interested in, have followed, and have attached significance to the work we have been doing. They would like to have more details and want more clarity on the cases. This, however, had already been discussed at the Oriental Hotel.

I did not have a chance to see Prince Mohamad bin-Nawwaf because he was still traveling in the Far East. The prince is the person who will explain all the details to the authorities in Saudi Arabia. What I have been told is: they want more clarity; they want cooperation to prevent the recurrence of similar problems; and they want to solve the problem of misunderstanding, or the lack of mutual trust between us. [end recording]

Surin Phitsuwan said he was assured that members of the Saudi Arabian royal family are ready to welcome the Interior Ministry's investigation team, which is scheduled to visit the country. They have studied the details concerning the cases which we submitted to Prince Mohammad bin-Nawwaf.

[Begin Surin recording, in progress] ... at this time, but the members of the royal family whom I met assured to me that they are willing to open the door and hold discussions with our team in order to obtain more information and more details on the cases. I want to confirm that they are satisfied with the conclusion made by Ari Wong-araya's team. The question was why it took us so long to reach this point. Well, our answer was: We have had four government changes before this government could come to power. [end recording]

Romanian Foreign Minister Arrives 30 Apr

BK3004061693 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Romanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Teodor Viorel Melescanu is now on a three-day official visit to Thailand as a guest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Upon his arrival in Bangkok yesterday afternoon, he checked in at the Hilton International Hotel at Nai Loet Park. The visiting Romanian minister will this morning pay courtesy calls on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, Deputy Prime Minister Bunchu Rotchanasathian, and President of the Senate Michai Ruchuphan. He will meet Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri at 1130 a.m. after which the countries will sign two accords—the agreement on the abolition of visas for diplomatic and official passport holders and the agreement on promotion and protection of investment. The signing ceremony will take place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at midday. After a luncheon hosted by Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, the visiting Romanian minister will make a tour of the Grand Place and meet Deputy Commerce Minister Chaiyot Sasomsap.

Meets Prasong

BK3004135193 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters at the Foreign Ministry at noon today after his consultative meeting with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Teodor Viorel Melescanu, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said that the Romanian deputy prime minister, during his visit to Thailand as a guest of the Thai Government, had called on the prime minister and deputy prime ministers.

During their meeting at the Foreign Ministry, the two foreign ministers agreed that their countries must further strengthen bilateral relations. Trade and investment cooperation and cultural exchanges between the two countries were also brought up for discussion. He said the two countries can serve as the gate to expanding trade with countries in their respective regions.

After the meeting, the two foreign ministers signed an agreement on investment promotion and protection between the two countries. The agreement will guarantee compensation for damage caused by war and the transfer of investment funds and profits with currencies which are freely convertible. As a result, investment between the two countries will increase. Romania is expected to buy more agricultural and textile goods from Thailand.

The Thai foreign minister said he exchanged views on regional developments with his Romanian counterpart. Romania has been supporting from the beginning endeavors made by Thailand and ASEAN to solve the Cambodian problem as well as the UN action in Cambodia.

Investment Promotion Accord Signed

BK3004125393 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] An agreement on investment promotion and protection between the Governments of the Kingdom of Thailand and Romania was signed during a ceremony at the Foreign Ministry at 1200 today.

Thai Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri and Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Teodor Viorel Melescanu signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

The major content of the agreement is:

1. The parties to the agreement will support and facilitate investment by investors from the other side in their territories. The investor will be entitled to fair, impartial, and supportive treatment of no less than that rendered to those from the host or any other third countries.

2. The parties to the agreement will guarantee compensation for the investor in cases of appropriation or damage caused by war and armed coercion in a state of emergency. The transfer of investmnet fund and profit must be paid with currency which is freely convertible. Conflicts between the parties to the agreement in connection with the implementation and interpretation of the agreement will be resettled by the arbitration commission.

The agreement on investment promotion and protection between Thailand and Romania will motivate bilateral investment, create confidence for both Thai and Romanian investors, and further strengthen economic relations between Thailand and Romania.

Received by King

AU3004144393 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1222 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/4/1993—On an official visit in Thailand now, the Romanian minister of foreign affairs, Teodor Melescanu, was received Friday, April 30, by the King of Thailand, Phumiphon Adunyadet. The Romanian foreign minister also had talks with Premier Chuan Likphai and with his Thai counterpart, Prasong Sunsiri. An agreement was signed on the protection of investments. The sides agreed to simplify formalities for visits by Romanian and Thai diplomats in Thailand and Romania respectively.

Teodor Melescanu will leave Thailand on May 1, the last leg of a two-week visit to several countries in the American and Asian continents.

Editorial Supports U.S. Plan for UNHRC

BK3004032593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Apr 93 p A6

[Editorial: "UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Is a Must"]

[Text] At the preparatory talks in Geneva on Tuesday for the World Conference on Human Rights scheduled for June in Vienna, the United States proposed the creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

In pushing for the creation of the position, US Ambassador to Switzerland Kenneth Blackwell said a High Commissioner could dispatch representatives to trouble spots and make UN efforts to promote human rights more effective.

It is sad but true that the United Nations is critically failing to address some of the most fundamental violations of human rights, which are still occurring on a horrifying scale in the world today. The wide range of human rights mechanisms and procedures, some of which have been established for more than 10 years, continue to document these violations by governments but have made little progress towards the eradication of such abhorrent practices.

There is a clear lack of political will on the part of member states of the United Nations to confer on its human rights mechanisms the necessary status, authority and capacity for action that would enable the world body to play an effective role in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Respect for human rights is one of the founding principles of the United Nations, yet its human rights programme accounts for less than one per cent of the overall budget of the organization.

US Ambassador Blackwell's proposal for a Human Rights High Commissioner is by no means a new one.

The idea was put forward in 1968, but rejected by both Moscow and Washington—at that time embroiled in the Cold War.

Now, with the Cold War over, member states of the United Nations must go beyond mere promises and aspirations and should adopt bold and creative measures to set a progressive and forward-looking agenda for the real promotion and protection of human rights into the 21st century.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights should be appointed as a new high-level authority with a sole and specific human rights mandate covering the full range of rights in economic, social, cultural, civil and political spheres. There is presently no high-level UN official or mechanism which deals exclusively with human rights. The UN under secretary-general for human-rights, for instance, has other heavy responsibilities as director general of the whole UN office in Geneva.

The High Commissioner should be a highly-respected individual with appropriate seniority and political standing and with proven expertise in the human rights field, entrusted with the authority and the necessary independence to carry out his or her functions impartially and objectively.

The appointment of a Human Rights High Commissioner with sufficient authority and responsibility to respond to human rights problems on his or her own initiative could help ensure that the United Nations acts impartially and objectively in all human rights situations deserving of attention in any region of the world, based on the commissioner's independent appraisal of a situation rather than only on the specific authorization of a government body.

"With a lot of atrocities across the globe, it becomes more and more indefensible for the international community not to intervene in persistent gross violations of human rights," said US Ambassador Blackwell on Tuesday.

This statement clearly denotes the universality of humanity and human rights. We reject the logic that a person being tortured in Asia, just because it happened, has a lesser right not to be subjected to torture. The universality of human rights is a principle that must be enforced throughout the world regardless of culture, religion, and history.

Bold measures of reform are needed to effectively address human rights concerns in any country in the 21st century based on this concept of universality, and for that reason member states of the United Nations at the World Conference in Vienna must call for the establishment of a UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Prasong Urges UNHCR To Help Cambodian Refugees

BK3004131393 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said that the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, or UNHCR, should help take care of the Cambodian refugees who refuse to return home for fear of a lack of safety in Cambodia. Over 700 Cambodian refugees at Site Two refugee center in Ta Phraya District of Prachin Buri Province are now staging a protest against their repatriation. The said the refugee center was officially closed earlier.

Speaking to reporters after the closure of the 49th ESCAP [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific] annual meeting in Bangkok on 29 April, the foreign minister said that Thailand will seek further discussion with the UNHCR in this regard. Besides, the UN high commissioner for refugees was already informed of the problem when she came here to witness the closure of the refugee camp.

The foreign minister added that the Thai Government is unable to allow these refugees to resettle permanently in the country. However, if they are convinced by those who were repatriated earlier that it is safe enough to travel back and resettle in Cambodia, they will probably agree to go back to their motherland.

Chuan Defends Deputy Premiers Over Stock Scandal

BK0205050493 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 93 p A2

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said yesterday he believed the government officials who leaked to the press a list of business people and companies suspected of involvement in the stock market scandal did so to boost their popularity among journalists.

Chuan, speaking to reporters after presiding over the opening ceremony of the May Day celebration, did not name names but said he was told that some government officials regularly passed government secrets to the media in the hope that they would get favourable press coverage.

"I don't think that they meant to do the coalition government any harm. Maybe they did not expect the news leak to cause internal fighting among coalition government parties," the prime minister said.

He said Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemin was personally investigating the news leak.

"Government officials who cannot keep official secrets are not to be trusted with anything," Chuan said.

Chuan recently defended deputy prime ministers Suphachai Phanitchaphak and Amnuai Wirawan who have been linked to alleged share price manipulation because of their past associations with suspected stock manipulators.

The prime minister said he did not have any information that could implicate the two deputy prime ministers or any other members of the Cabinet in the alleged share price manipulation of four companies involving 30 business people.

The Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), the stock market watchdog, has asked police to take legal action against the 30 for alleged manipulation of the share prices of Krit Mahanakon Co and three other companies. It has also sent a list of 123 other individuals and companies suspected of involvement in the stock scandal to police for further investigation.

But somehow the list of 123 names fell into the hands of the press and was published in some newspapers. The SEC denied it had given the list to Journalists but did not challenge its authenticity. The disclosure of the list prompted Phalang Tham MP for Bangkok, Akon Huntrakun, to resign to show political responsibility. The New Imperial Hotel, which Akon chairs, was among the names listed as possible suspects in the share price manipulation.

Chuan said the rumours about the two deputy prime ministers being linked to the stock market scandal would not hurt the stability of the government.

"I don't think this government will fall because of the rumours. Secrets are sometimes leaked. For example, the Cabinet's agenda always get leaked because some people are irresponsible," the prime minister said.

Suphachai, whose tenure as chairman of Krit Mahanakon Co overlapped the period in which alleged manipulation of the company's share prices took place, has been accused by some opposition MPs of involvement in the cnme, a charge the deputy prime minister denied.

Amnuai also denied the charge made by the opposition and some newspapers that he had been involved in alleged share price manipulation by the president of Krit Mahanakon Co, Wichai Kritdathanon. His accusers claimed that Amnuai and Wichai had been close business associates.

Meanwhile, New Aspiration Party leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday denied that any of the party's members had been involved in share price manipulation. Chawalit said the party need not clarify the allegation against its members because the stock market watchdog and police investigators had yet to complete their investigation.

Company Wins Road Contract in Burma

BK2704023393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 93 p 19

[Text] A Thai company based in Mae Hong Son, Suk-Ua-Anan Co, has won an agreement in principle from the Burmese Government to build-operate-transfer a 164-kilometre road linking Chiang Rai and Burma's Chiengtung province.

The owner of the company, who is also chief of Mae Hong Son's provincial council, Anan Uatrakun, told BUSINESS POST the contract should be signed by his company and the Chiengtung provincial authority next month.

The two parties are negotiating the details of the concession period and the road toll revenue-sharing ratio.

The planned road is expected to cost 326 million baht and take 18 months to complete.

Mr Anan said the most difficult part of building the asphalt road would be five 5 metre bridges along the route.

At first Mr Anan's proposal was for the company to invest in the project and operate it for 15 years, with 60 percent of toll fees going to the Burmese authority.

The proposal was rejected by the Burmese side. He said his second proposal covered a 20-year period with revenue-sharing ratios changing in each four-year period from 51:49, 60:40, 70:30, 80:20 and 90:10 for the Burmese and Thai sides respectively.

The project is seen as important to regional economies because it is expected to be extended to Yunnan in southern China, opening up a new land transport link from China to ASEAN countries.

Mr Anan said he would propose a plan to build a 91-km Chiengtung-Yunnan road after the Chiang Rai-Chiengtung project contract was signed.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand is sending a survey team to drive from Chiang Rai to Chiengroong in Yunnan in the first week of May as part of its plan to promote tourism from Thailand to China by land once the road project is complete.

Trade Official Notes Increasing Food Exports

BK2804061893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Food exports earned almost 92 billion baht to Thailand last year, an increase of 6.1 percent over the previous year. Director General of the Department of Export Promotion Oranut Osathanon says Thailand's food exports are on the rising trend. Major buyers include Japan, the United States, and the European Community. The director general says Thailand has high potential for food production and the country is regarded one of the world's major food suppliers.

In a move to promote food exports, the Department of Export Promotion, in cooperation with the private sector, organizes "Thailand Food Fair 93" from 28 April to 2 May 1993. The fair is a one-stop supermarket for international buyers, traders, and processors. It takes place at the Department's exhibition hall on Ratchadaphisek Road in Bangkok. Products on display are fresh, frozen, dried, dehydrated, canned, and ready-to-serve food as well as flower products. Trade representatives are invited on 28 and 29 April during 10 am to 6 pm. The public are welcomed during 30 April and 2 May 10 am to 8 pm.

Vietnam

Commentary Condemns Khmer Rouge 'Crimes'

BK0205151193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] Dear friends: There has been more evidence of the Khmer Rouge's crimes against the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Cambodia. This is another reminder for the patriotic people of Cambodia and the international community to be more alert and to try to stop the Khmer Rouge's evil deeds. In the first part of the program, Duong Quang Minh will discuss the recent actions of the Khmer Rouge, including the withdrawal from their office in Phnom Penh.

According to sources from Cambodia, on the night of 12 April, another Indonesian soldier in the UN peacekeeping mission was killed by the Khmer Rouge while on duty in Kompong Cham Province. On 15 April, Khmer Rouge troops attacked troops of United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] in northwest Cambodia, injuring a Malaysian police officer. Previously, on 8 April, an UNTAC spokesman indicated that Khmer Rouge troops had massacred two Vietnamese residents in Phnum Kravanh District, Pursat Province, 200 kms north of Phnom Penh while the latter were gathering firewood in a forest. It was reported that three other Vietnamese residents, who were working together with the two massacred Vietnamese, have been missing since then. These are new indications of the Khmer Rouge's unchanged policy of massacring Vietnamese residents and attacking UNTAC forces. The motives for these deeds rest with the Khmer Rouge's general objectives, namely, causing instability in Cambodia in order to disrupt the upcoming general elections. It is also worthy noting that on 13 April, the Khmer Rouge closed their office in Phnom Penh and their representatives left the place. In a letter to Prince Sihanouk, Mr. Khieu Samphon, leader of the Khmer Rouge, said that he had returned the Khmer Rouge building next to the Imperial Palace because the Khmer Rouge considered themselves unsafe there.

Commenting on the withdrawal of the Khmer Rouge from their office in Phnom Penh, Mr. Akashi, UNTAC chief, said: By such an action, the Khmer Rouge have deprived themselves of the legitimacy they gained due to their signature in the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia. The world will not tolerate the Khmer Rouge. They will not have any sanctuary nor will they have any more opportunity. As Mr. Akhashi put it, it is clear that the Khmer Rouge have deprived themselves of the legitimacy that the Paris agreement gave them. Furthermore, the Khmer Rouge claimed that their withdrawal from their office in Phnom Penh was out of fear for their safety. Who has caused them to fear for their safety? They are raising a smokescreen and playing a magician's trick to cover for their crimes and put the blame on others. It is obvious that the killer now wants to become the judge. However, the time has come for conscientious people who love freedom and social progress to throw to the wind their skepticism about the true nature of the Khmer Rouge. The murder of millions of innocent Cambodians during the Khmer Rouge's rule, which lasted three years, eight months and 20 days, still remains fresh. Now they are continuing their genocidal policy by killing more innocent Cambodian people, massacring Vietnamese residents, and even killing UNTAC troops who have come to Cambodia to take the responsibilities, handed to them by the international community in supervising the implementation of the Paris agreement. Their saying that Phnom Penh is not safe enough is just another threat, or even more than a threat, it is a warning of their new crimes in the days ahead. They deliberately tried to cause instability right in the capital city of Phnom Penh.

The world has witnessed and denounced the genocidal crimes of the Khmer Rouge in the past. Now it has to be even more alert with regard to their new crimes and has to work out measures to stop their new defiance. The Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI on 14 April wrote: The withdrawal of the Khmer Rouge from Phnom Penh is the harbinger of their real actions, which are aimed at disrupting the general election in Cambodia next May. The newspaper also quoted a UNTAC military source saying there are good chances that the Pol Pot faction would withdraw their military staff from the joint military group, which comprises UNTAC personnel and representatives of the four warring factions in Cambodia. The source also revealed that in mid-March, the Khmer Rouge faction had a meeting in Pailin, Battambang Province, to discuss measures to cope with the coming general election, and they decided to use force to prevent the election.

UN police also revealed that at (?Ma) Village near the town of (?Phla Pot), northwest of Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge had displayed posters warning the people not to participate in the May general elections. They also threatened to kill UN peacekeepers who have direct responsibilities in the general elections.

In commenting on the Khmer Rouge's withdrawal from Phnom Penh, Mr. (?Hasegawa Kiyai), deputy chief of international affairs section of the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, wrote: The Khmer Rouge's action proves that their objective is to increase the disorderly situation and prevent the general elections. He stressed: The Pol Pot faction is heading for the path to self-destruction.

It is still necessary to assert again that at present it is very important to stay alert and remain vigilant in the face of the Khmer Rouge's dark schemes in order to stop their new crimes and keep the Paris agreement on Cambodia on the right track. This is the duty of all patriotic Cambodian people, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, the State of Cambodia, and all parties which have registered in order to participate in the general election. This is also the responsibility of the UN, which is represented by the Security Council; the five permanent country members of the Security Council; UNTAC, which is their representative in Cambodia; the participating members of the Paris conference on Cambodia; and the progressive people of the world.

Radio Welcomes Signatories' Statement on Cambodia

BK0305101193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Apr 93

[By station commentator]

[Text] The signatory countries of the Paris Peace Accord on Cambodia have expressed their prime concern over the serious situation in Cambodia through their statement dated 23 April.

In their clear-cut and definite statement, the 18 signatory countries expressed their strong determination to support the preparation process for the upcoming general elections in Cambodia. They have totally supported the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia's decision that the elections will be held on 23-27 May.

This is a very fundamental and significant point in the political complexity and deteriorating situation in Cambodia. It is necessary to say that the Khmer Rouge are the culprits of this deteriorating situation. This faction has repeatedly made statements rejecting the Paris Peace Accord and opposing the general elections. They have even resorted to violence to threaten Cambodian voters, massacre Vietnamese residents in Cambodia, and attack UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] officials.

The Democratic Kampuchea faction has also used gross and meticulous acts to persuade other factions to boycott the general elections so as to foil UNTAC's tasks in organizing and controling the elections in the country.

In face of the Khmer Rouge's stubborn acts, various people from Cambodian strata as well as Cambodia's neighboring countries have expressed their concern over the situation. They wonder to what extent the Cambodian situation will develop? When can this country can enjoy peace and national reconciliation? In reality, peace has not been achieved, fighting is continuing, and suffering and death are prevalent. As a result, it is impossible to create and maintain a neutral political atmosphere in Cambodia for free and just general elections as wished by the Cambodian people and world public opinion.

Stemming from this situation, public opinion wishes and demands signatory countries to the Paris Peace Accord and the United Nations take appropriate actions and measures to end the deteriorating situation in Cambodia and to stop the Democratic Kampuchea's sabotage activities. Now the signatory countries of the Paris Peace Accord have expressed their resolute stand on the Cambodian issue. Their 23 April statement has clearly pointed out UNTAC's responsibility and expressed support to the UNTAC chief, Mr. Akashi, in implementing the Paris Peace Accord and in cooperating with the SNC to resolve problems in the country. Particularly, these signatory countries have strongly condemned all violent acts committed by whatever factions for their political objectives or for racial discrimination.

The signatory countries of the Paris Peace Accord have also expressed their indignation over the cruel massacre of UN civilian and military personnel. They demanded all Cambodian factions to take essential measures to stop these cruel acts to ensure safety for the UN personnel to carry out their peace mission. This is extremely necessary, otherwise the UNTAC forces will be useless and the Khmer Rouge will commit crimes at will. A number of countries with their troops participating in the UNTAC forces have expressed anxiety and wanted to withdraw their soldiers.

The signatory countries' statement also expressed support for and confidence in Prince Norodom Sihanouk, especially his key role in implementing the peace process and accelerating national reconciliation in Cambodia. The statement also asserted the signatory countries's commitments in strictly implementing the Paris Peace Accord.

We contend that the New York statement of 23 April by the 18 signatory countries to the Cambodian Peace Accord, with firm and constructive expression, has correctly met the aspirations of the Cambodian people and world public opinion.

For hostile forces who want to undermine and block the peace process in Cambodia especially the general elections, this statement of the signatory countries is a warning for them to think about their acts henceforth.

Whether the Cambodian situation will be improved or not following the statement of these signatory countries, we will have to wait and see developments in the near future.

Conference of People's Councils Opens 26 Apr

Nong Duc Manh Speaks

BK0105124393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Report on the 26 April opening session of the Fifth National Conference of People's Councils in Danang City—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Dear friends, this morning the fifth national conference of people's councils was solemnly held in Danang City in an atmosphere to prepare for the 18th anniversary of South Vietnam's liberation and national unification.

Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the party Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly, chaired the conference. More than 400 representatives, who are permanent members of the people's councils and people's committees from 53 provinces and cities, attended the conference. Comrade Nguyen Van Chi, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Quang Nam-Da Nang Party Committee, also attended the opening session.

The conference was also attended by members of the National Assembly Standing Committee; chairmen, vice chairmen, and members of the committees of the National Assembly Standing Committee; representatives of the National Assembly Office, Presidential Office, and party Central Committee Office; representatives of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and some departments and sections of the party and state; and National Assembly members of the Quang Nam-Da Nang Province.

National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh delivered an important address after the national anthem ceremony and opening speech of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu. Comrade Nong Duc Manh mentioned the purpose and duty of the Fifth National Conference of the People's Councils at the beginning of his speech. This conference has an important meaning because after more than three years of implementing the Law on the Organization of the People's Councils and People's Committees, today we can look back and evaluate the results as well as the remaining problems in the activities of the people's councils at all levels. We will discuss directions, duties, and measures to continue to renovate the organization and activities of the people's councils from now until the end of the official term. We can suggest something to be changed or supplemented in the Law on the Organization of the People's Councils and People's Committees and the Law on the Election of People's Council Deputies, making them suitable to the 1992 Constitution and guaranteeing the duty and authority of the people's councils in different localities. This will contribute to the construction of a law-governed Vietnamese state of the people, by the people, and for the people with the target of rich people, strong nation, and society civilized.

Then the comrade National Assembly chairman reviewed positive changes in the implementation of duty and authority of the people's councils at all levels in the past. On behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, he welcomed achievements scored by the people's councils at all levels since the beginning of their current official term. He highly evaluated and welcomed the practical contributions of state organs, mass organizations, social agencies, and the public and soldiers nationwide to activities of the people's council.

Touching on the limitations and weak points in people's councils' activities at all levels in the past, Comrade Nong Duc Manh said: "To strictly evaluate and compare with the function, duty, and authority stipulated by the Law on the Organization of the People's Councils and People's Committees, the activities of the people's councils at all levels, generally speaking, are still suffering many shortcomings and problems. They have not met the renovation requirements and expectations of the public.

"The people's councils' activities in some localities are still carried out in formality and without depth. The supervision role of the implementation of the state's resolutions, laws, and key government tasks has not been carried out satisfactorily by the people's councils. The people's council standing committees in some places have not been firm in organization and are facing difficulties in performing their function, duty, authority, and using working methods.

"The activities of the people's council, between its two official meetings, are weak in some localities. The departments of the people's council have not reasonably developed their own role as stipulated by law. And they have not assigned specific responsiblility to cadres working in those departments.

"Groups of people's council members and members of the people's council are not accustomed to their responsibility and power. Activities of the people's council at village, subward, and town levels are still poor.

"That presents many problems, which need to be considered and studied in order to overcome them. It is worthy to note that sometimes, in some places, some people's council deputies have not fulfilled their responsibility to the voters. In some cases, they are even discharged from duty by the public. That situation has a profound effect on the reputation of the people's councils."

Comrade Nong Duc Manh analyzed the aforementioned situation. He held that this situation is due to the unreasonable and weak organization of the people's councils. He further said: "The duty set forth by the entire people, in general, and for the people's council at all levels, in particular, is still very formidable. First, we must set our mind towards implementing thorough renovation in all fields of social life, as outlined by our party, in order to make the renovation cause move forward under the socialist path.

"We are gradually implementing the renovation of the political system, together with economic renovation. The main content of the political system renovation is to progressively reform the state mechanism and to renew party leadership over the state in order to strengthen the effectiveness of social management of the state, to build socialist democracy, and to improve the socialist legal system. This will make the role of the upper structure satisfactorily develop and accelerate as well as pave the way for socioeconomic development.

"I think that in order to build such a government, first, socialist democracy must be consolidated and perfected, considering it as a target and a moving force of the renovation cause. Second, a perfect and unified legal system must be built. Third, the people's intellectual knowledge and living standards must be improved. Forth, the government must be organized in a reasonable way and built on the basis that the power must be unified with clear work assignments and responsibility. The administration mechanism must be strongly built to guarantee its effectiveness from the central to grassroots level and to safeguard the execution of the constitution and laws.

"The people's council at all levels are the authority state organ in provinces and localities. It represents the people's will, aspiration, and right of mastery. As an organ of the political system led by the party, the people's council at all levels must thoroughly comprehend and completely execute the socialist democracy. It must continue to renovate to enhance its activity effectiveness."

Dear friends, after the speech of Comrade Nong Duc Manh, Comrade Phung Van Tuu, vice chairman of the National Assembly, read a recapitulative report on the organization and activities of the people's council at all levels since November 1989. The report also outlines directions and duties of the people's council from now until the end of this people's council official term so the conference participants can discuss ways to continue the renovation and improve the people's council activities in the future.

Conference Holds 2d Session

BK0105114593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Today, the fifth national conference on people's councils met for a second day under the direction of Comrade Phung Van Tuu, vice chairman of the National Assembly.

The speeches delivered by 15 delegates today were focused on discussing issues concerning the organization of people's councils at all levels and their standing bodies, the number of people's counsellors at all levels, the term of office and various committees of people's councils, the number of people's council sessions, and the conditions ensuring the operations of people's councils and counsellors. They also discussed the issue of relations between people's councils and their standing bodies and people's committees, people's courts, people's organs of control, Vietnam Fatherland Front committees, and other mass organizations.

The delegates all affirmed that the system of leadership by the party, management by the state, and mastery by the people has gradually been concretized and successfully been implemented. Many of them, however, held that the poor work performance of cadres of people's councils at city ward and village levels is due to the fact that their knowledge is still not up to the standard required by their tasks and that adequate attention has not yet been paid to their work conditions.

Conference Closes 28 Apr

BK0205144193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Telephone report by station correspondent in Quang Nam-Danang Province]

[Text] Dear friends: The fifth national conference on people's councils concluded in Danang City this morning, 28 April, after two days of serious work in a highly constructive spirit. Besides members of the standing bodies of people's councils, delegates to the conference also included chairmen and vice chairmen of the people's committees of 53 provinces and cities directly under the management of the central government.

The conference unanimously maintained that since the promulgation of the law on the organization of people's councils and people's committees, the activities of people's councils at all levels have undergone positive changes. People's councils at all levels have gradually assumed a decisive role in formulating local socioeconomic development plans and have contributed to resolving pressing and practical problems concerning citizens' rights.

The conference attached special importance to the party's leadership over people's councils and administrative organs at all levels. The improvement of the working relations among party committee echelons, administrative organs, and people's councils is an important factor of the good performance of people's councils so far.

The conference devoted more than two working days to discussing a number of major issues. Regarding the organization of people's councils and people's committees, the majority of delegates suggested that this organization should continue to be structured according to the law currently in effect. This means that people's councils and people's committees should continue to be set up in administrative units at all levels. Regarding the standing bodies of people's councils, many delegates believed that it is necessary for such bodies to continue to exist. To substantiate their views, the delegates maintained that one of the causes leading to an improvement of people's councils' work performance in the past several years rests with the existence of such standing bodies. Regarding the term of office and number of sessions of people's councils, many delegates suggested that these should remain the same as specified under the law currently in effect.

The conference also discussed measures to apply the system of party leadership, state management, and people's mastery to the implementation of the law on the organization of people's councils and people's committees.

Speaking at the closing session of the conference, National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh pointed out that along with helping accelerate socioeconomic development, people's councils should renovate their operating procedures a step further. He called on people's councillors to step up their activities, seek ways to effect changes for the better in the new situation, and consolidate the all-people solidarity bloc so as to successfully implement the two-year 1993-94 socioeconomic development program, work toward the assessment of the overall work performance of people's councils during their term of office, and help with the perfection of the draft law on people's councils and people's committees. Upon returning to their localities, the comrade delegates should use the substance of the issues under debate as well as the experiences shared at the conference to fulfill even more satisfactorily their duties as people's deputies by contributing to building a law-governed Vietnamese state which belongs to, comes from, and works for the people.

NHAN DAN Editorial Marks April Victory, May Day

BK0205094393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Apr 93

[NHAN DAN 1 May Editorial:"Enhance the Sense of Responsibility and Promote Creative Labor To Make the People Prosperous and the Country Powerful"]

[Text] Every year on 30 April and 1 May, our people commemorate two major anniversaries: the liberation of South Vietnam and the Internatinal Labor Day. On this occasion we will recall the glorious tradition of our nation and express gratitude to those who have sacrificed for national independence and unification, while striving to carry out the current great tasks in making the people prosperous, the nation powerful, and society advanced in order to move toward socialism.

After the unification of the country, we thought that we would be able to advance along a smooth path toward building the nation; but the complex international situation, new difficulties in national reconstruction, and the wicked schemes of hostile forces have created new ordeals for us and obstructed our advancement. Once again, the Communist Party of Vietnam—founded and forged by President Ho Chi Minh—has proved its capabilities in firmly and effectively leading the country to overcome numerous difficulties and dangers in order to advance further. The party has implemented the renovation undertaking, adopted an open door policy befriending all countries in the world, and promoted peace, independence, and development. Thanks to these efforts, the nation's latent potentials have been exploited, more friends have been established, and a firmer foothold has been achieved for the development process.

Progress made by us in various fields during the past few years and the early months of this year indicates that the country is overcoming numerous difficulties and is advancing along the renovation path. Industrial production in the first quarter of 1993 developed remarkably, economic components in localities made a steady progress, and the gross national product increased by more than 11 percent. Moreover, production activities have notably developed, foreign trades have been expanded, export values have increased by 16 percent as compared with the corresponding period last year, goods production has been diversified, prices have been stabilized, and inflation has been curbed. Foreign investment in Vietnam has increased considerably, with many major projects in significant areas. State revenue has increased thanks to production development and the increased volume of export-import goods. As a result, we are able to provide more finance for various socioeconomic developmental projects.

Nevertheless, difficulties are still prevalent. Agricultural production is not as good as last year; market development is not consistent; and economic activities in remote and rural areas are poor. Moreover, smuggling and tax evasion have been prolonged, corruption has not been curbed, and social vices have developed; while hostile forces are attempting to undermine our stability. Facing this situation, we should not feel optimistic, but must continue to implement the renovation undertaking, enhance our revolutionary vigilance, firmly observe rules and disciplines, ensure political security under all circumstances, continue to develop the economy, promote thrift, and create a harmonious development in the economic, cultural, and social domains, thereby contributing to a firm and uniform implementation of the renovation undertaking.

We have great opportunities but also face severe challenges. The struggle to seize all opportunities and overcome all ordeals is the heavy responsibility of our entire party, the armed forces, and the people. Our resolve to persist in carrying out our ideal objectives and political orientations will help determine the pace of development in our nation. The need to combine theoretical firmness with flexible guidance in work implementation must be a lesson for our people and party to always bear in mind, particularly at different turning points of history. In this way, we can work out the best ways to satisfactorily meet the requirements of socioeconomic stability and development in accordance with the orientations chosen by our people, party, and Uncle Ho.

Suffering caused by poverty and backwardness is no less painful than that under the colonial era. However, every nation must advance from its latent potentials with support from foreign sources. As a result, the driving force for development comes from our people, organizations, and individuals, ranging from policymakers to manual laborers.

We must strive to turn the sense of responsibility and the promotion of creative labor into a program of action to be carried out effectively by each organization and individual for the cause of making the people prosperous, the nation powerful, and society advanced.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet Receives American Guest

BK0305143793 Hanoi VNA in English 1423 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here this afternoon Ms. Helen Muller who is on a visit here from April 28 as guest of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

At the reception, P.M. Vo Van Kiet thanked Ms. Muller for her efforts in campaigning for help to Vietnam in personnel training in recent years. He said he hoped that Vietnam would receive more help from foreign friends, including Americans, in further promoting its cause of education and training.

Previously Ms. Helen Muller was received by Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam. Ms. Muller also called on several institutes and universities in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

President Sends Condolences to Sri Lanka

BK0305141793 Hanoi VNA in English 1408 GMT 3 May 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—President Le Duc Anh yesterday sent a message of condolences to Mr. Dingiri Bandara Wijetunge, acting president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, over the recent assassination of President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Australia

Miyazawa Spokesman Raps Monopoly on Whaling Debate

OW0405074293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Sydney, May 4 KYODO—A spokesman for Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has criticized countries seeking to maintain an international moratorium on whaling, saying it amounts to them monopolizing the choice of animals that humans eat.

Sadaaki Numata, who is deputy press secretary at the Foreign Ministry, said that in debating the decision to lift the moratorium on whaling at the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Japan's cultural values "should be respected." He was alluding to claims that Japan is suffering from "cultural imperialism" from nonwhaling countries. Numata made the comments during an interview with Australian Broadcasting Corp. (ABC) for a documentary on whaling to be broadcast in Australia on Saturday [8 May]. He gave the interview from the parliament house in Canberra following summit talks between Miyazawa and his counterpart Paul Keating last Friday [30 April]. Numata said Japan is not seeking an end to the moratorium but calling for a decision made on "an objective, scientific basis." Miyazawa himself did not discuss the issue of the resumption of commercial whaling with Keating, who has said that Australia supports a French proposal to create a whale sanctuary. The whaling issue was briefly touched on in talks between Miyazawa and New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger, but the two leaders "agreed to disagree."

On the eve of the official opening of a general meeting in Kyoto of the IWC, antiwhaling nations remain staunchly opposed to Japan's request for a quota of 2,000 minke whales to be taken each season. The IWC will meet next week to decide the future course of the whaling industry. While disagreeing with France's proposed whale sanctuary, Japan wants the mink whale quota on the basis that the harvest will not threaten the minke population. Nonwhaling nations such as Australia argue that whaling is not necessary because whale products have been replaced.

$2.13-Billion March Deficit Stuns Financial Market

BK0405040293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 4 May 93

[Text] Australian financial markets have been stunned by a huge blowout in the nation's current account deficit. Belinda Trump reports the deficit for March has skyrocketed to more than $2 billion [Australian dollars] compared with the February deficit of $797 million.

[Begin Trump recording] The market has been expecting a deficit of up to $1.5 billion. The actual deficit of $2.13 billion, seasonally adjusted, is the third consecutive jump and the highest monthly deficit since January 1990. It was caused by a one billion dollar turnaround in the balance from merchandise trade from a surplus to deficit.

Exports fell seven percent and imports soared 16 percent. The Australian dollar immediately lost half a cent as the news of the deficit broke on financial markets. [end recording]

Government Welcomes Solomons-PNG Agreement

BK0105074493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 1 May 93

[Text] Australia has welcomed the draft agreement between Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea [PNG] to cooperate in stopping border incursions into each other's territory.

Relations between the two neighbors soured because of incursions by members of the PNG Defense Forces into Solomons' territory. Port Moresby has criticized Honiara for not taking strong enough actions to prevent members of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army crossing into PNG territory from the Solomon Islands. Australia's minister for Pacific Islands Affairs, Gordon Bilney, says he has not heard officially about the agreement but welcomes press reports of an improvement in relations between the two neighbors.

[Begin Bilney recording] Obviously, when one has at one's doorstep a situation of conflict, a potential conflict, between two countries who are good friends of Australia—PNG and the Solomons—it is a matter of concern. That is why we have been active in advocating and agreeing to help both governments in arriving at a better border management arrangement. Without having seen confirmation of the press report, it does seem that those efforts by all three governments have been successful. [end recording]

New Zealand

'Senior' Official: Australia Undermining U.S. Ties

BK0405110193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 4 May 93

[From the "International Affairs" program]

[Text] To New Zealand now where newspaper reports claiming Australian diplomats are undermining efforts to end the standoff on nuclear policy between Washington and Wellington. The reports are sourced to a senior foreign affairs official, but New Zealand's prime minister, Jim Bolger, says he knows nothing of the claims.

He says he has been assured by his Australian counterpart, Paul Keating, that Australia will not intervene in

New Zealand's efforts to improve its relations with the United States. From Wellington, Brendan Burns reports:

[Begin recording] [Burns] Since the government of David Lange introduced the ban on nuclear-armed or -powered ships in 1985, there has been no military cooperation between New Zealand and the United States. The ANZUS alliance continues with Australia, which has always publicly stated any improvement in the relationship between Washington and Wellington was a matter for those two governments. Now, an unnamed but senior New Zealand foreign affairs official has been reported as saying, despite the public prostestations, Australian diplomats in Washington are seriously undermining New Zealand's efforts to restore its links with the United States.

There has been a distinct renewal of New Zealand diplomatic activity in Washington since President Clinton took office, with Prime Minister Jim Bolger affirming he wants to work at a full relationship. But he says his advice is there is no Australian white anting of this diplomacy, and if there were, this would breach a top-level pledge from Australia.

[Bolger] We have, and I personally have assurances from both Prime Minister Hawke, and it was followed by an assurance from Prime Minister Keating, that that would not happen, but in terms of New Zealand-Washington bilateral, it was for the two countries to determine the shape and the mood and the attitude, not for Australia and that Australia would not interfere, and I accept the word of both prime ministers that that is what has happened. There has been no evidence brought to me which is that the interference that was alleged in the paper has happened or is happening.

[Burns] In spite of Mr. Bolger's comments, his government has launched an investigation to identify which senior New Zealand official spoke to a newspaper, claiming Australia was underming the efforts of restoring links with the United States, and Mr. Bolger says the issue may come up at his talks later this month with Mr. Keating, who is making his first official visit to New Zealand.

[Bolger] [words indistinct] because I do not think there is an issue here but Paul Keating and I, I am sure, will talk about many world issues, including the role of the United States in our part of the world, and it could (?take it from that) context. But, no I am not rushing in to say: Look, Paul, do you reconfirm your statement, because I have no reason to not accept his statement.

[Burns] Australia has always nervously eyed New Zealand's antinuclear ban, while it continued to accept ships without any challenge to the United States' neither-confirm-nor-deny policy on nuclear weapons. Those weapons have now been removed from surface ships, but New Zealand still bans nuclear-powered vessels.

Prime Minister Bolger initiated a review which found that nuclear propulsion was safe, but will not move to reverse the ban until after November's election. In the interim, or beyond, it seems clear that Canberra would not favor any special deal by the United States which accommodates New Zealand,k even if publicly it says this is a matter from which Australia stands aloof. [end recording]

Solomon Islands

Bougainville Government To Close Office in Honiara

BK3004102493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG] and Solomon Islands' officials have agreed that their military forces should have the right of hot pursuit across their common border near Bougainville. The agreement was reached at official level talks between the two countries in the Solomon's capital, Honiara, and will now be put to the respective governments for endorsement.

The statement released at the end of two days of talks says PNG and Solomon Islands also agreed on the closure of the Bougainville Interim Government's humanitarian office in Honiara. Agreement was also reached on restricting the Bougainville Revolutionary Army's access to the media. According to the statement, communication links between PNG and Solomon Islands security forces will be reestablished immediately in line with agreements for joint border operations at the common border. Both delegation have expressed satisfaction that the outcome of a talk would help ease the tension between Solomon Islands and PNG.